

Syria seeks Soviet troops pledge as warning to Reagan

From Robert Fisk, Damascus

Syria has asked the Soviet Union to revise their strategic cooperation agreement so that Soviet ground troops could be sent to Damascus if the Syrian Army has to withstand a big military assault in Lebanon.

Until now it has been generally assumed that the Russians would intervene militarily only if Syrian sovereign territory were attacked, but the Syrians are making no secret that they would like to revise the terms of the pact, in the words of a government spokesman, "to meet the imbalance resulting from the Israeli-American strategic agreement".

Syria's request to Moscow is intended as a warning to President Reagan, whose new cooperation agreement with Israel is viewed with the gravest concern in Damascus. Syria's fear that it may face a joint US-Israeli attack is genuinely felt, despite President Reagan's insistence that the Americans are not looking for a battle with Syria.

There are up to 6,000 Soviet military personnel in Syria. Most of them are advisers and the remainder constitute the crews for the Sam 5 ground-to-air missile batteries installed at three sites early this year.

Despite claims to the contrary in Washington, there are no Soviet combat troops in Syria. Indeed, the Russians have hitherto preferred not to contemplate any military actions which might suck them into the Lebanese quagmire.

In an interview with The Times yesterday, however, Mr Muhammad Haidar, head of the foreign relations committee of the ruling Baath Party's National Command, said that his Government had "no doubt at all that, if Syria is attacked, the Soviet Union will immediately take our side both politically and militarily".

When I asked Mr Haidar if Damascus now wanted Soviet troops to come to Syria if the Syrian Army was attacked in Lebanon, he replied: "It makes no difference if Syrian forces are attacked in Lebanon or in Syria - we are allied to the Soviet Union. Between two allied

forces, the differentiation you mention makes no difference."

Moscow may prefer to leave things as they stand with Damascus, and it is important to realize that the Syrians do not intend to request the presence of Soviet troops on their soil before any military attack should take place. They are following their usual practice of steadily increasing the stakes in the Middle East, in the hope of making their potential enemies think twice about military adventures. Syria also likes to publicize its independence from the Soviet Union and would probably seek direct Russian assistance only as a last resort.

Nevertheless, if they can include such support in the event of fighting in Lebanon, then the Syrians will have substantially increased the risk of a superpower confrontation, as they believe the United States has done by forging a strategic agreement with Israel.

The daily fighting in which US Marines are involved in Beirut airport came under sustained rocket, mortar and small-arms rifle fire yesterday morning and fought off their



The Queen at yesterday's opening of Britain's biggest automated letter sorting office, at Nine Elms, south-west London. (Photograph: Brian Harris).

America to lift Argentine arms embargo

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Despite British misgivings, the Reagan Administration yesterday announced it was taking the necessary legal steps to end the five-year ban on US arms sales to Argentina.

The State Department said President Reagan would certify to Congress tomorrow that Argentina has made "dramatic progress" in human rights in the past year and a half.

The certification has been deliberately timed to coincide with the inauguration of President Raul Alfonsin in Buenos Aires.

British diplomats reacted cautiously to yesterday's announcement and expressed the hope that any arms sales would only involve spare parts and defensive equipment.

They recalled that last month Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defense Secretary, said the US would not provide sophisticated equipment which could be used to attempt a new invasion of the Falkland Islands.

The State Department spokesman himself pointed out that the US has traditionally never been a major supplier of arms to Argentina.

The two biggest suppliers, France and West Germany, have already resumed their sales.

British diplomats said the US had kept Britain fully informed ahead of yesterday's announcement. Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, has been holding talks with Sir Geoffrey Howe, the British Foreign Secretary, during his current

visit to Washington.

Continued on back page, col 1

Pressure mounts in Israel to kill or capture Arafat

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The Israeli threat to the evacuation of Mr Yasser Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization from Tripoli was intensified yesterday when Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, announced that suggestions he should be killed or captured were now under consideration by his Government.

Strict military censorship is being employed to prevent reports discussing the military and naval options open to the Israelis. The anti-Arafat atmosphere has been encouraged by a number of powerful cartoons in the local press, one showing him riding on the charred shell of the Israeli bus wrecked in Tuesday's PLO bomb jubilation waging the United Nations flag.

Speaking yesterday after visiting the survivors in hospital, Mr Shamir was asked for his response to the call from Mr Ariel Sharon, the former Defence Minister, for the "physical liquidation" of Mr Arafat. "We

are considering all the ways of action", he replied. He bitterly attacked the evacuation plan due to get under way in the next 48 hours. "I think it is the subject for the most extreme condemnation of the UN, whose purpose is to safeguard peace and which is giving its protection to such a murderous organization which claims responsibility for this crime", he said.

Ministers have denied that the Cabinet agreed to allow Mr Arafat safe passage as part of last month's prisoner exchange with the PLO. Asked if there had been a decision not to block his departure, Mr David Levy, the deputy Prime Minister, said yesterday: "I did not say there had been a decision; nor can I give even a hint that there has been a decision to the contrary. There are matters for which the best response is silence."

Meanwhile, the bus attack has prompted outspoken condemnation of a PLO terrorist action by radical Palestinian

leaders from the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem. Their unexpected move was hailed by Mr Shamir as a "positive trend" and by the opposition Labour Party as possibly the first sign of a wish for coexistence with the West Bank Arabs.

The leaders who signed the statement deploring the attack were Mr Karim Khalef, deposed Mayor of Ramallah who was maimed in the 1980 car bomb attack unofficially blamed on Jewish extremists; Mr Mustafa-Natche, deposed Mayor of Hebron; Mr Anwar Nusseibeh, chairman of the East Jerusalem Electric Company, and the publisher and editor of the pro-PLO Arabic language daily Al Fajr.

NEW YORK: An Israeli request to stop the UN flag being flown on ships evacuating the PLO from Tripoli has been denied by Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary general (Zoriana Pysariwsky writes).

NGA may call all-out strike

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Leaders of the National Graphical Association are considering an all-out strike which would halt publication of national and local newspapers if peace talks fail to resolve the union's closed-shop dispute with Mr Selim ("Eddie") Shah's Messenger Group.

The NGA national council has been called into emergency session in Bedford tomorrow to determine the union's next step if negotiations with Mr Shah collapse.

Mr Joe Wade, general secretary of the 133,000-strong craft print union, said last night after talks with the TUC general secretary, Mr Len Murray, that the dispute "could spread into every area of the industry".

This could happen if peace moves by the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) fail to yield a settlement or if Mr Shah breaks off the talks.

Officials of the NGA went to the London headquarters of Acas last night for a fourth successive night of negotiations conducted at arm's length through conciliators.

They went into the peace process deeply pessimistic about the prospect of a deal to end the 23-week-old conflict with the Stockport based Messenger Group over NGA claims for a closed shop and the reinstatement of six dismissed print workers.

The Times understands that the plans have been drawn up for a national strike in the printing and newspaper industry as the NGA's "final fling" of opposition to the operation of the Government's new labour laws.

Its opposition has already cost it £150,000 in fines for contempt of court orders not to interfere with the production of Mr Shah's newspapers.

Continued on page 2, col 2

Jailed fans home by Christmas

Luxembourg (Reuters) - The 13 English football fans still held in jails here will be home by Christmas, despite being sentenced yesterday to between one and four months in prison.

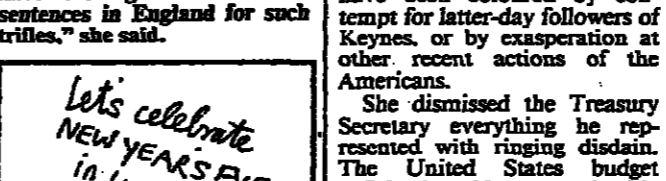
The chief government spokesman, Mr André Claude, said: "Justice must be seen to be done, but basically we want to get them out of Luxembourg."

Some England supporters rampaged through the city centre after last month's Luxembourg-England match, in what police said was the worst outbreak of football hooliganism in the Grand Duchy's history.

Most of them will serve only a token week or 10 days of their jail terms for offences ranging from shoplifting to assault. The Government is also prepared to waive fines ranging from £50 to £300 in its haste to be done with the fans.

One fan's mother protested at the harshness of the penalties. "They would never have been given such strict sentences in England for such trifles," she said.

Let's celebrate NEW YEARS EVE in Luxembourg



SAFETY PLANS

Mr Russell Marlow: "Disappointed".

The case was sent back to the magistrates with a direction to continue the hearing, which had been stopped when the bench decided Mr Marlow had no case to answer.

Mr Michael Dinsin, counsel for Mr Marlow, said he would appeal to the House of Lords if the divisional court decided

that the matter was of sufficient public importance. The Hampshire police appeal against the magistrates' ruling has led to thousands of drink-drive cases being adjourned and an increase in the number of motorists pleading not guilty. Many of these cases will now be heard and, no doubt, pleas will be changed.

The High Court ruling will be particularly welcomed by the police as they launch their Christmas campaigns against drinking and driving.

The Royal Automobile Club said it was not surprised by the decision but was concerned over the accuracy of the Intoximeters, of which 645 have been distributed to 39 police forces since last May.

Lord Lane said that Mr Marlow, of Britten Road, Bas' stock, had been stopped while driving his car on May 11 this year. A breath test on the

Intoximeter showed a reading of 111 microgrammes of alcohol per 300 millilitres of breath, almost three times the legal limit of 35 microgrammes.

At a hearing in September, the magistrates agreed with Mr Marlow's counsel that the print-out was inadmissible because it was not a statement under the Transport Act, 1981. However, Lord Lane said the magistrates should have looked at the whole print-out slip, which included an explanation of the coded figures. "We are dealing with the real world and not a fanciful world", he told the court. "In my judgment it is abundantly clear to anyone in his senses precisely what the document meant. Taken as a whole it is plainly intelligible."

Mr Marlow said afterwards that he was disappointed and claimed that the Intoximeter reading was wildly inaccurate because he had drunk hardly any alcohol. Law Report, page 10

British Government kept in picture

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

British ministers were wholly untroubled last night by the expected news that Argentina had been re-certified as a potential purchaser of United States arms.

But because they are aware of public anxiety about the Falklands, and more generally about the present state of relations between Washington and London, they went out of their way to emphasize that in this area at least the Administration had been exemplary in consulting them.

A lengthy statement from Downing Street pointed out that re-certification did not mean that arms sales were either in the pipeline or planned in any way, and was not equivalent to arms sales.

BRUSSELS: Britain would "obviously express concern" to the US if the American administration were to sell any weapons to Argentina which could be used in a war against the Falkland Islands, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Sec-

retary said yesterday (Ian Murray reports). But he emphasized that the US was still a long way from making any decision about actually selling weapons to the new Argentine Government.

He said that the Administration had to review its relations with Argentina in the light of the human rights situation in that country and see whether or not it could properly continue to impose a ban on arms sales there on grounds that human rights were not being observed.

There was a "wide gap" between agreeing certification which would allow arms to be sold and actually reaching any agreement on arms sales themselves.

CHILEAN DOUBTS: A number of other Latin American countries will have misgivings over the US decision, not the least among them being Chile which has a long-standing dispute with Buenos Aires over islands in the Beagle channel. (Henry Stanhope writes).

Drink-drive loophole is blocked

By John Witherow

A potential loophole in the law which could have cleared thousands of motorists facing drink-drive charges and forced the police to revise their latest breath testing machines was blocked in the High Court yesterday.

The divisional court overturned a finding by magistrates in Basingstoke, Hampshire, that the print-out from a Lion Intoximeter 3000 machine was not admissible in drink-driving cases.

Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, ruled that the magistrates had been wrong to clear Mr Russell Marlow, aged 26, an engineer, of driving with excess alcohol. The magistrates' court decided that the print-out, which had shown Mr Marlow to have been three times over the legal limit, was inadmissible as a statement because it was not intelligible to the average person.

Mr Russell Marlow: "Disappointed".

The case was sent back to the magistrates with a direction to continue the hearing, which had been stopped when the bench decided Mr Marlow had no case to answer.

Mr Michael Dinsin, counsel for Mr Marlow, said he would appeal to the House of Lords if the divisional court decided

that the matter was of sufficient public importance. The Hampshire police appeal against the magistrates' ruling has led to thousands of drink-drive cases being adjourned and an increase in the number of motorists pleading not guilty. Many of these cases will now be heard and, no doubt, pleas will be changed.

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Law Report, page 10

THE TIMES Tomorrow Before the Day



Bernard Levin before The Day After Tropical... Forever England in Jamaica... The joys of singing in a choir... 100 choices for children's presents... Stuart Jones analyses the cup draws in Europe

Russia puts a stop to Start

The Soviet Union refused to set a date for the resumption of the strategic arms reduction talks in Geneva. The deployment of US missiles in Europe was given as the reason for the suspension of the negotiations.

Opec agrees to hold oil price

Opec has agreed to continue the present price and production agreement and will confirm today in Geneva that its prices should remain unchanged for at least 12 months. The decision will remove much of the uncertainty from world financial markets.

Lords TV vote

The House of Lords has carried by 74 votes to 24 a motion for the experimental televising of its proceedings.

It's Carrington

Nato Foreign Ministers yesterday unanimously appointed Lord Carrington to succeed Dr Joseph Luns of The Netherlands as Secretary-General. He takes over next June.

Britons missing

Two British businessmen have disappeared from their Paris hotels, the British Embassy there confirmed. Both were last seen on December 1.

New year curb

Trafalgar Square's fountains are to be drained and boarded up on New Year's Eve to prevent a repetition of last year's crush, which killed two women Page 3

Plane search

The RAF joined coastguards last night in searching for an aircraft carrying eight passengers from Liverpool which went out of radio contact shortly before it was due at Stornoway, Hebrides

Drug profits cut

Cuts in the profits that drug companies make from the health service and in the amount spent on advertising have been announced by the Government. Page 2

Rapist's choice

One of three men convicted of rape in the United States and told by a judge to choose between 30 years in prison and castration said he would prefer to be castrated. Page 8

Bowling change

A proposal requiring committees to bowl a minimum of 117 overs in a full day's championship cricket will be put to the TCCB at Lord's on Tuesday. Page 22

Letters: On way of the Cross, from the Archbishop of York; parole, from Mrs S McCabe; Ulster murder, from Mr W McDowell

Features: Lord Carrington and Nato; Calks Abbey

Why the Government needs PR professionals; Warning in spite of themselves; Bernard Levin on freezing out the urban terrorist; David Watt asks what's left when the nuclear dust has settled; Spectrum: Kenya 20 years after independence. Friday page: Drowning in a sea of debt

Obituary, page 16 The Rt Hon Sir Keith Holyoake, Lieut-Col Kenneth Gaisford

Table with 2 columns: Home Affairs, Arts, Business, etc. and 2 columns: Meeting, Parliament, Prem Bonds, etc.

Government cuts drug firms profits in £100m NHS savings package

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The Government announced yesterday cuts in the profits of drug companies can make from the National Health Service and reductions in permissible spending on advertising and promotion.

The cuts were condemned as unnecessary by the Association of British Pharmaceutical Industry, which said that they were likely to damage the industry's ability to produce new products.

Mr Michael Meacher, labour's spokesman on health said that they were inadequate response, and still left the companies with a "license to print money".

Ford unions settle for 7.5%

Union leaders representing 44,500 Ford workers settled yesterday for a 7.5 per cent pay offer.

The agreement comes after a split vote among Ford workers on a union recommendation to reject the offer and take industrial action from January 3.

NGA may call a nationwide strike

The union is due to appear before the High Court in Manchester this morning to answer a further complaint from Mr Shah relating to last week's violent scenes on the printing works picket line at Witwick Quay, Warrington.

Mr Wade said last night: "If Mr Shah is not prepared to agree to defer legal action, that clearly implies he has accepted that the negotiations have reached deadlock."

stoppage took place the TUC - which is anxious to avoid all-out conflict with the Government's labour laws - would seek to use its good offices to prevent the newspapers from going off the streets.

Mr Wade said as he left Congress House that the interpretation that the peace talks were not going well was "a reasonable assessment".

Staff vote of no confidence at Sellafield

The 900 engineering workers at the Sellafield (formerly Windscale) Nuclear Fuels in Cumbria have passed a vote of no confidence in the management because of the contamination incidents in which radioactive material was discharged into the Irish Sea.

British Nuclear Fuels refused to comment on the vote because it was an internal industrial relations matter.



Royal portrait: A detail from Bryan Organ's study of the Duke of Edinburgh which was unveiled at the National Portrait Gallery in London yesterday.

Inquest on banker to be public

The inquest into the death of Mr Dennis Skinner, the British banker who died in a mysterious fall in Moscow after telling diplomats that the KGB was about to frame him, will now be held in public.

Arrests at funeral of INLA man

Two men were arrested yesterday in violent scuffles by the police moved in to prevent a paramilitary funeral.

Bomb charge man remanded

A Belfast man charged in connection with the IRA bombings in London in 1981 was remanded in custody by Marylebone magistrates yesterday to appear at Lambeth Magistrates' Court in London on December 15.

Safety at naval base criticized

The Government was asked yesterday to set up an independent watchdog committee to monitor safety at the Royal Navy's armament depot at Coulport on the Clyde, which is to be the base for Britain's Trident missiles.

3 charged with £26m theft

Three men were remanded in police custody yesterday by Feltham Magistrates' Court, west London, charged with the theft of £26m in gold bars from a Brinks-Mat warehouse near Heathrow airport on November 26.

Sale room £57,200 for plain blue canvas

A canvas which was painted a uniform bright blue all over by Yves Klein in 1957 was sold by Sotheby's yesterday for £57,200 (estimate £20,000 to £30,000) to a private collector.

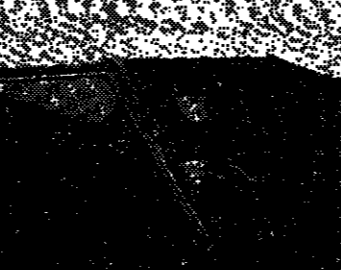
Rates curbs Bill will fail, Tory MPs tell Jenkin

The Conservative backbench 1922 executive last night left Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, in no doubt that he would fail if he attempted to push rate-capping powers through Parliament.

Safety device could have saved 92 lives

Airport failings and gaps in safety measures may have been significant factors on Wednesday's crash at Madrid airport that killed 92 people.

Second, although most important airports have red warning lights to tell pilots they are entering a runway, Barajas airport has only marker boards that are not illuminated.



Ground radar that could have prevented the Madrid crash

Table titled 'Spanish Air Crashes since 1977' with columns for Date, Location, Aircraft, and Dead.

Wrecked in 1982, 683 people died in scheduled airline disasters.

There is still no sign of action. Señor Pedro Tena, Director of Civil Aviation, Maintained yesterday that Barajas did not need ground radar since the airport was affected by fog on only four days a year.

Advertisement for Simpson's of Golfe, featuring a car and the text 'BUY HER A SAMBA FOR CHRISTMAS'.

Korchnoi opts for postponement

Despite being short of time (he had only two minutes left for his last five moves) Ribli played the attack well and Smyslov had to play accurately to avoid a loss.

Chess board diagram showing the position of pieces for the game between Ribli and Smyslov.

Rates curbs Bill will fail, Tory MPs tell Jenkin

The Conservative backbench 1922 executive last night left Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, in no doubt that he would fail if he attempted to push rate-capping powers through Parliament.

Although last night's meeting with the 1922 executive was private, it is known that at least a third of its members oppose government proposals.

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Two views of 'The Day After' A gruesome portrait of nuclear disaster

The film The Day After, which will be shown on independent television at 9.30 pm tomorrow, plots the fictional aftermath of a nuclear catastrophe in a small town in Kansas.

The makers have advised parents not to allow children to watch the film on their own because of its disturbing scenes.

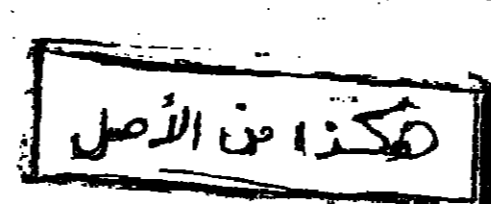
A nine-day wonder like soap opera

The silence is profound. Two weeks ago there was national controversy in the United States as politicians, pundits, lobbyists and the public had their shout about The Day After.

Public consciousness of the nuclear issue was raised. A debate went on in public and private forums and in schools.

Many Americans felt the quality of the film was beside the point. What they thought important was that for the first time the nuclear issue was brought home to most people.

Advertisement for Sports Aid Foundation Appreciation, listing donors and the foundation's mission.



Trafalgar Square fountain reveals banned to improve new year safety

Tough safety measures to prevent a repeat of the new year crowd hysteria in Trafalgar Square 12 months ago in which two women died were announced yesterday by Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary.

The traditional fountains in the square will be banned and Scotland Yard has said that if the crowd gets too big the police may take action.

Mr Brittan, in a written Commons answer, gave an eight-point plan to allow revellers to celebrate the new year in safety.

All Trafalgar Square fountains will be drained and the main ones boarded up to stop people climbing up them.

Electronic visual display boards will be installed to flash messages and crowd control instructions to revellers.

Publicity will remind people of the dangers and encourage them not to drink too much and to behave sensibly.

British Rail will run extra trains in the early hours to cut the risk of a last-minute dash for home.

First-aid facilities will be improved and telephone links to ambulance control centres provided.

Traffic bollards and a traffic island, which people could stumble over, will be replaced with removable posts.

There will be closer liaison between the police and the fire brigade.

Tube and pedestrian subways under the square will be used by the police to make it easier to deploy officers.

After Mr Brittan's announcement, Scotland Yard said that if crowds become too heavy people may be diverted away from the square.

"The square is not designed for very large crowds and it has been necessary to make some changes to minimize inconvenience and injury," a yard spokesman said.

Sufficient police would be on duty and would be "especially concerned to deter or disperse" rowdy people.

Deputy Assistant Commissioner Edgar Maybanks, who will be in charge of the operation, said: "We are looking forward to a busy but pleasant night. While we have made some changes from last year, they are in the main designed to

help people have a happy time with the minimum of regulation.

"The New Year's Eve celebration in Trafalgar Square is a traditional yet spontaneous expression of human warmth and we do not wish to restrict it unnecessarily."

"We all have a duty - emergency services and revellers alike - to be responsible in our conduct. I am sure that with the traditional good humour of both revellers and police, the new year will be welcomed in the right spirit."

The safety measures were drawn up in consultation with senior police officers, Home Office officials, representatives of the Department of the Environment, Westminster City Council, ambulance services, the fire brigade, London Transport, British Rail and British Transport police.

Their aim was to prevent the ugly scenes of last New Year's Eve when two people died and 143 were taken to hospital. The Metropolitan Police Commissioner, Sir Kenneth Newman, had provided Mr Brittan with a comprehensive report of the deaths.



Dolly mixture: Mr Xavier Roberts in London yesterday with some Cabbage Patch Kids. (Photograph: John Manning.)

Prince William to get Cabbage Patch Kid

Prince William is to be given his own Cabbage Patch Kid. Mr Xavier Roberts, who created the soft dolls that prefer to be known as their "father", said in London yesterday: "I certainly hope to send one to Prince William by Christmas. I have a number of suitable candidates with me."

It will be one of the individually-made originals from Mr Roberts' American factory, Babyland General Hospital, and not a mass-produced doll from Hongkong.

So ugly that they make ET look like Paddington Bear, the dolls have created a sensation in the United States, with riot in shops and early specimens changing hands on the collectors' market for thousands of dollars.

The launch in Britain spearheaded an international onslaught in 1984, with West Germany targeted for February and Japan by April.

Mr Roberts, aged 28 and from Georgia, the "father" of 300,000 handmade dolls (2%

million more have been mass produced in Hongkong to date) is not above sending himself up a bit, with his sort-of Stetson hat and his rattlesnake-skin boots.

He refused to disclose how much money he has made from his Cabbage Patch - an American equivalent of the gooseberry bush under which babies are found - but it is clearly enough to have made him a multi-millionaire with a 38-bedroom mansion on 430 acres in the Blue Ridge

mountains, five very large cars and an Olympic-size pool.

Mr Roberts considers that his dolls are not bought but "adopted", and supplies "adoption certificates" and "official registration" procedures.

A computer ensures that each doll is different from all the others in some physical detail and in its name. The dolls will sell here for £24.95. About 15,000 have been supplied for Christmas and Harrods has sold several hundred already.

More university places needed, not fewer, teachers say

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Statisticians at the Department of Education and Science were accused yesterday of getting their sums wrong on future university student numbers. Instead of falling by 20 per cent between now and 1984, they would rise over the next six years and then level off.

That challenge to government policy, which assumes that institutions will have to contract or close over the next decade, was published yesterday in a document, *The Real Demand for Student Places*, by the Association of University Teachers, representing 34,000 academics.

It throws into question the "Great Debate" on the future of the universities being orchestrated by the University Grants Committee, based on the education department research.

The so-called Great Debate might well end up as a joke, Miss Diana Warwick, the association's general secretary, said.

The Government's predictions are questioned on two grounds: that they take no account of the rising birth rate in social classes I and II who

go to university in disproportionately large numbers and no account of the increasing numbers of women going into higher education.

"The AUT asks why did the DES not recognize these trends? Why is the DES apparently satisfied with arbitrary judgments?"

The answers to these questions may be embarrassing for the Government but not such an embarrassment as it would be for the nation if adequate provision for future university education is not made", the document says.

The association's other argument for maintaining and expanding the university system is Britain's need for a skilled and educated workforce for economic recovery. It will be pursuing its challenge to the Government's figures with Mr Peter Brooke, the minister responsible for higher education.

The document has been sent to the Prime Minister, MPs, and all university vice-chancellors and principals. Mr Giles Radice, Labour spokesman on education, said yesterday that

research showed that the Government was slamming the door in the face of today's eight-year-olds.

"It shows that if the Government's plans to cut the higher education sector further are carried out, many thousands of qualified young people will be denied the choice of entering university."

The association predicts that demand for university places will rise by 16 per cent between now and 1989 and then return to its present level. It says the proportion of 18-year-olds in social classes I and II will rise from 27 per cent of the total age group in 1977 to 40 per cent by 1998. That will have an effect on student demand.

The proportion of female students has increased from 30.6 per cent in 1970-1 to 41.3 per cent in 1982-83. It says it is reasonable to assume that trend will continue.

The Real Demand for Student Places (Association of University Teachers, United House, 1 Penbridge Road, London W14 3HL; free).

Arthritis drug may be withdrawn

By Thomson Prentice Medical Reporter

A drug introduced to Britain last year as a pain-reliever to sufferers from rheumatism and arthritis may be withdrawn after talks between the Committee on Safety of Medicines and the manufacturers about its side-effects.

The drug, Flosin, has been under surveillance since it was marketed in September of last year. The Department of Health and Social Security confirmed yesterday that discussions were taking place with Farmitalia Carlo Erba, the manufacturers, of Barnet, Hertfordshire.

A decision on whether to withdraw the drug may be taken when the Committee on Safety of Medicines holds its monthly meeting in London next Thursday.

A spokesman for the company said yesterday: "We have not been asked to withdraw it as far as I am aware, and I would almost certainly be aware of such a request."

Flosin, available only on prescription, is one of a group of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs which have indomethacin as an active component. Indomethacin is known to have such side-effects as headaches, dizziness, gastro-intestinal discomfort, ulceration and bleeding.

Economic 'time bomb' warning

By Nicholas Timmins Social Sciences Correspondent

"Time bombs" that will affect public spending are ticking away as a result of changes in the age structure of the population, politicians were told yesterday.

A report from the Simon Population Trust, based on a study by the Policy Studies Institute, argues that Britain's population is likely to remain stable or to grow only slightly until the end of the century.

But the increase in the numbers of very elderly, the entry of children born in the 1955-65 "baby boom" into child bearing age, and a steep rise in the number of pensioners from the year 2010 when the "baby boom" generation start reaching retirement age, will all affect demands on health, social services, housing, education and pensions.

The report says that the review of the state earnings-related pension scheme, recently announced by the government, is urgently needed.

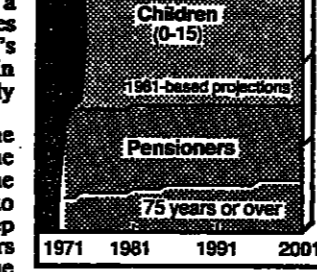
The labour force will be at best grow only slowly or at worst decline early next century as the number of pensioners increases, so that there will be two workers per pensioner by the year 2030, against 2.75 at present.

That could mean a 60 per cent rise in pension contributions to a third of earnings on the worst assumption, or a 40 per cent rise at best.

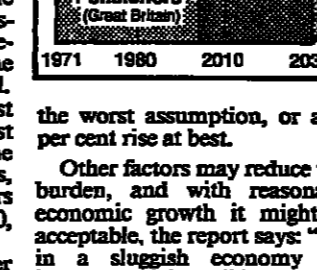
Other factors may reduce that burden, and with reasonable economic growth it might be acceptable, the report says. "But in a sluggish economy the increases might well be regarded by many as intolerable."

Changing population 'will cost more'

HOW MANY DEMONSTRANTS? % of population of working age (United Kingdom)



BUT AFTER 2001... Millions Source: Simon Trust



Cash 'vital' for RSC at Barbican

By David Hewson Arts Correspondent

The Royal Shakespeare Company will be forced to close its London base at the Barbican unless it receives fresh public funds, according to a team set up to scrutinize the workings of the company.

The report by Mr Clive Priestley recommends that the Government provide the extra cash to enable the RSC to continue both in London and Stratford-upon-Avon, but has called for the company to reduce the amount of overtime paid to its production staff, and to renegotiate the working practices of stage staff at the Barbican.

Mr Priestley's team, set up on the Prime Minister's orders, revealed that the two joint artistic directors of the company, Trevor Nunn and Terry Hands, receive annual salaries of nearly £50,000 and £35,000 respectively, although Mr Nunn is on unpaid sabbatical.

Of those salaries, Mr Priestley says: "It is the men not their posts who carry the pay. I do not agree with those who argue that they are overpaid. I do not see why in principle it is wrong to set a high value on merit in the subsidized theatre."

"The joint artistic directors have a remarkable and fitting talent as may be seen in their work on the stage and I have no reason to disbelieve what others have told me, that they could earn more in the commercial sector, especially abroad."

Fancy dress: the Priestley report reveals the details of dressing the part of Queen Victoria in *Poppy*, staged by the RSC

The Queen's missionary costume cost £513.75: £250 for the jacket, skirt and petticoat which were made up by an outside contractor plus 10 metres of jacket and skirt fabric, £85; button boots, £45; hat, £40; jacket trimmings, £25; sash fabric, £10.50; hat veil, £10; fan, £10; petticoat fabric, £9.60; hat straw, £7; painting on sash, £6; net for cap and lace, £5; tights, £3.75; gloves, £3.50; jacket lining, £3.40. The umbrella is a stock prop.



RSC performers earn between £120 and £400 for a 45-hour week, while musicians were paid between £163 and £279 for a 24-hour week. Production workers received a basic average of £9,900, but boosted that to £13,422 with overtime.

Mr Priestley praises the RSC staff for their dedication to the company and concludes that they are not overpaid.

He also rejects the notion that the subsidized RSC offers unfair competition to the commercial West End.

"It seems evident that there are the makings of a 'mixed economy' between the subsidized and the commercial theatre, television and the cinema. Examples of plays which have originated in the RSC and transferred to the West End or to film or television are *Privates on Parade*, *Educating Rita* and

Nicholas Nickleby." Mr Priestley concludes that there is a "marked underfunding" of the RSC compared with the National Theatre. The company will receive a £3.6m grant from the Arts Council this year but expects an accumulated deficit of £191,000, rising, on present results, to nearly £1.7m by March 1985.

The report recommends that the RSC is given two years to solve the peaks and troughs of work in the production department which give rise to additional overtime and to renegotiate practices at the Barbican. It urges the Arts Council to increase the company's grant for this year to £4.1m and recommends an additional grant to wipe out the £191,000 deficit.

The RSC said yesterday that it had made its observations on the report to Lord Gower, the Minister for the Arts,

Kidney patient may sue

By Peter Evans Home Affairs Correspondent

A patient who needs dialysis and is denied it by the National Health Service will be treated at a private hospital and the bill for the cost sent to the Department of Health, Mrs Elizabeth Ward, president of the British Kidney Patient Association, said yesterday.

She said she had discussed prospective treatment with a private hospital and the next patient she knew who needed it. She agreed it would be a test case. She said that if the Department of Health refused to pay the bill, she would seek legal advice.

According to the association, a registered charity, at least 20,000 patients die each year because of acute renal failure, and Mr Graham P. Morris, a barrister writing this week in *The Law Society's Gazette*, says that kidney patients who cannot get treatment because of lack of equipment or nurses can sue the hospital authority.

Mrs Ward went to see Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Social Services, this week to impress on him the urgency of the problem which she says is forcing doctors to play God in deciding who should get treatment.

Mr Morris says the National Health Service Act, 1977, imposes a duty on the Secretary of State to secure improvement in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of illness.

"It is submitted that such a patient may enforce the public duty imposed upon his area health authority by means of an application for judicial review. Vocal demands by doctors and in the press for an increase in the resources applied to the treatment of kidney patients appear to be producing little or no practical benefit."

Britain soon to receive satellite TV channel

By Bill Johnston, Electronics Correspondent

The first commercial television channel to be beamed across Europe and received legally in Britain takes to the air on the new European satellite, ECS-1, in 10 days with three hours of family entertainment in the early evening. By next April Sky Channel, offered by the Satellite Television company, will have expanded to eight hours a day.

From 4 pm until midnight, seven days a week, it will transmit in English a mixture of music, films, sport and light entertainment from studios in London, *Starsky and Hutch*, *Charlie's Angels* and *Vegas* and other American programmes make up a substantial proportion of the channel's offerings. In January, when the service extends from three to five hours, that proportion will be over 60 per cent but by April it is supposed to drop by a third.

It is expected to drop even further once the television companies have concluded effective agreements with Equity for the retransmission of recorded material on cable.

Cable operators in Britain and other European countries will receive the Sky Channel on their antenna and redistribute the programme on their network.

Radio Rentals, Swindon, Select TV, Milton Keynes, and Greenwich Cablevision, which operate networks with a capacity for about six channels, have agreed to take the new service.

The Government has awarded 11 franchises for multichannel cable television, taking about 30 channels. They are expected to be customers of the new satellite service.

Satellite Television, which is 65 per cent owned by News Television, owners of *Times Newspapers*, *The Sun* and *News of the World*, started experimentally in 1981 with £4m of backing from Barclays Merchant Bank and Guinness Mithon. By April, 1982, the company was transmitting for two hours each evening on the European orbital test satellite.

The satellite programmes now reach more than half a million homes in Norway, Finland, Switzerland and France. Apart from expansion plans in Britain the service is expected to be received by cable operators in the Netherlands, Austria and West Germany.

The service will be sold to cable operators in the UK for 10p a month for each subscriber and will be financed principally by selling pan-European advertising.

Counsellor for prostitutes is appointed

The London Borough of Camden has appointed a "prostitution resources officer" to help women who want to stop being prostitutes. Confirming the appointment yesterday, a council spokesman declined to identify the woman, but said that she had been seconded from the social services department for a six-month trial period.

The official will conduct a survey of organizations that could help, including voluntary and statutory welfare agencies, the police, and Job Centres and will probably counsel prostitutes themselves.

It is believed to be first appointment of its kind, although Camden has been campaigning for more than a year to reduce prostitution and its attendant problems.

Royal butler 'received death-threat calls'

By Craig Seton

Death threats apparently made to Mr Andrew Lightwood, a former royal butler, were being investigated by Gloucestershire police yesterday.

Mr Lightwood said that he would telephone Princess Anne to explain personally why he had left his job at Gatcombe Park, after warnings that he was to be killed.

Buckingham Palace said yesterday that it could not discuss security matters but added that Mr Lightwood, aged 23, could be in breach of his terms of employment in talking to the press.

Mr Lightwood who was for four years in the service of the Queen, became Princess Anne's butler in August but left after reporting to the police that he had received about 14 telephone calls on an unlisted

number at Gatcombe Park from a man with a strong Irish accent who threatened him with death.

Mr Lightwood, who is now unemployed, said yesterday that he had been planning to leave his job with Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips because of the pressure of working for the Royal Family but threats had forced him to leave earlier.

The police said that Mr Lightwood had complained to them about the threats and officers were still investigating.

Museum move

Plans for a museum of world railways in Peterborough using disused rail warehouses to display locomotives and rolling stock in working condition, are being studied by a group of rail enthusiasts.

Milk yield study after farm scare

A study has been started to determine if milk yield from farms in Strilingshire has fallen after a chemicals scare.

The study, commissioned by the Industrial Pollution Inspectorate for Scotland, comes after allegations by Mr Andrew Graham, a farmer from Milngavie, near Glasgow, that his dairy cows have changed colour, stopped producing milk and wasted away and died after grazing near the Re-Chem International chemical waste plant, Bonnybridge near Falkirk.

He is planning to take legal action against the company and says he has lost around 60 cows.

Mr George Stott, the inspector's senior inspector, said that the amount of radioactive waste at the plant was well within authorized limits.

Dr Arthur Coleman, Managing Director of Re-Chem welcomed the investigation of the cattle deaths and said the company was confident that it would be cleared of involvement.

Quality fear over cheaper holidays

Travel agents are concerned that the holiday price war will lead to a decline in quality, Mr Ronald Jenkins, the new managing director of Olympia Holidays, said yesterday.

His company has announced an average 12 per cent cut in the price of travel to Greece and the Greek islands, after "negotiating right to the bone" on behalf of the British traveller.

Sealink fares to go up

Sealink is to increase fares on car ferries from January 1, because of rising costs. On crossings to Belgium and short journeys to France, the £9.50 fare for drivers and passengers will go up by 50p and on other continental routes by £1. Car rates have also been increased.

A new off-season 72-hour excursion fare, from £90, will be introduced next year between Holyhead and Dun Laoghaire, near Dublin, for any car with two adults.

£155,000 award for carpenter

A carpenter was awarded £155,000 agreed damages in the High Court in London yesterday for brain injuries suffered after a joist he was working on broke and he fell 10 feet.

Through his wife, Maureen, Mr Michael Reilly, aged 57, from Stratford, east London, sued his employers, M Conway (Formwork) Ltd, which had denied liability.

Miner killed

A miner, Mr James Smith, aged 46, of Blakeley Grove, Alverthorpe, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, was killed yesterday in the first fatal accident at the new Riccall mine in the Selby coalfield. He was crushed by machinery.

Olivier recovery

Lord Olivier was making a satisfactory recovery last night after a kidney operation on Wednesday at St Thomas's Hospital, London.

MUST THIS HUMAN TRAGEDY CONTINUE?

Mariam is Ethiopian. During 1983 she has lost everything.

She is one of millions whose lives have been devastated by the freak weather conditions which have swept across the Southern Hemisphere.

The worst affected are the poorest men and women already living on the brink of poverty.

Your donation can help by providing new seeds, cattle and simple shelters for the homeless.

Please give what you can today.

I enclose my donation of: £2 £5 £10 £15 £

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Postcode _____

Thank you. Now please return this form to me, Guy Stringer, Room TM24, OXFAM, Freepost, 274, Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7ER

The new commercial television logo

Minister hopes to save £100m on annual drugs bill

HEALTH SERVICE

The Government is to attempt to reduce the drugs bill paid by the national health service to the pharmaceutical industry by reducing the profit drug companies can make from drugs sold to the NHS, Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, said in a statement to the Commons. But the Government has decided not to implement the recommendation in a recent report which said that pharmacists should use generic drugs in place of branded drugs unless the prescribing doctor stated otherwise.

Mr Clarke said: "prescription medicines cost the NHS in England about £1,250m in 1982/83. Drugs account for about 40 per cent of the total cost of the NHS, and about 10 per cent of the cost of the NHS as a whole. The pharmaceutical industry's profits from NHS sales are governed by the non-statutory Pharmaceutical Price Regulation Scheme which was introduced in its present form in 1978.

However, the present scheme has run unaltered for over five years. We have decided both to reduce the level of profit from NHS business and the level of sales promotion allowed as an expense under the Scheme.

First, under the scheme each pharmaceutical company participating in it is assigned a target rate of profit. We have decided that these targets should be reduced by an average of 4 percentage points which will represent a saving to the NHS in the UK of about £40m a year. We have also decided to reduce the level of sales promotion allowed as an expense under the Scheme.

Second, the industry will spend about £100m a year on sales promotion. We propose, first, that companies should be asked to repay to the department a sum equivalent to any sales promotion expenditure which exceeds the level allowed under the scheme, and second, that the industry limit should be reduced from the present level of 10 per cent of turnover to 9 per cent in 1985-86. We estimate that when fully implemented these changes will reduce actual expenditure on sales promotion by 25 per cent but we will review this area again to see if further reduction can be made.

All measures I have announced will take effect from 1 April next.

Mawhinney: A triumph for vested interests

Mr Peter Mawhinney, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said in the Commons that it was certainly not a triumph for vested interests that the security measures announced in the White Paper on Northern Ireland were a public scandal of enormous proportions.

It is outrageous that the drug companies are being permitted by the Government to make profits at the expense of the NHS of over 250m this year on a rate of return on capital employed of 25 per cent. The Daily Telegraph, which is not a socialist magazine, reported a survey which found that 25m could be saved by substituting unbranded versions of branded drugs which cost the NHS £60m.

The Government's decision on generic substitution owes a great deal more to arm twisting by the drug companies than to the concern of the general practitioners behind whom Mr Clarke seeks to hide. Mr Clarke's overall target rate of return under the scheme was inherited from the previous Labour government was 25 per cent, and above that a so-called grey area of discretion of a further 10 per cent.

What I have announced reduces that overall target to 21 per cent and the grey area to one third of whatever the company's target is. The savings we are making are a substantial and significant response to genuine fears in this area and represent a fair deal between the interests of the drug users, that is the NHS and the interests of those who work and earn a great deal for the pharmaceutical industry. Dr Brian McKelvey (Petersborough, C) said Mr Clarke has had to say on drug substitution is a great disappointment and regrettable but it is seen as a triumph of vested interests of the medical and pharmaceutical professions over the needs of patients.

There is no reason clinically why substitution should not take place. Bearing in mind that most hospital doctors already do that. Until generic substitution and generic prescribing are firmly in place the real savings to the health service on the drugs bill cannot be fully manifested. Mr Clarke's announcement I have made is estimated to save more than £100m per annum on the NHS drugs bill. To go beyond that at the expense of the pharmaceutical industry will actually jeopardise research-based manufacture in this country.

Problems of protection that face RUC

TERRORISM

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Terrorists seek to bring about anarchy

ASSEMBLY

The IRA and the INLA were trying to bring about a situation of total anarchy in Northern Ireland and it would be playing into their hands if the Assembly were to be abandoned, Mr James Prior said in the Commons.

Answering questions about the future of the assembly, Mr Prior said: "I have regular discussions with political leaders in Northern Ireland on a wide range of topics, including the assembly. The Government believes that the Assembly continues to offer a way forward which is acceptable to all sides. It is in the interests of all the people of Northern Ireland that constitutional parties should participate in it. Mr James Prior (Lab): Is it not time to come forward with new political initiatives given that the Assembly has such a future? Mr Prior: I am not optimistic about playing into their hands if we allow that.

Mr John Hume (Foyle, SDP): Very few people in Northern Ireland have any faith in the Assembly. The two main parties sitting in the assembly, one of which has just rejected a decision from the Government to devolve to power which the Government had done before the Assembly elections took place. That is the fourth occasion in a decade the terms had been rejected. Mr Prior: That exemplifies the problem I have. One major party rejects it for one reason and the other rejects it for precisely opposite reasons.

Brent scenes 'amount to mob rule by fascist left'

Mr Thatcher, the Prime Minister, condemned as "contrary to every tenet of democracy" the scenes at London Borough of Brent Council the previous night when protesters intervened and Conservatives and Liberals were prevented from taking control of the council. Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Opposition, said he would like to know the reasons why the economic policies which could broadly and fairly be described as neo-Keynesian seem to have brought such beneficial effects so far to the United States. Budget is finalized could the principles of British economic policy be rigorously re-examined with an open mind? (Labour cheers)

Mr Thatcher: In spite of what he says, a budget deficit of this kind is causing high interest rates which are extremely damaging to this country and other European countries and are preventing us from getting the amount of investment we should have here by drawing a lot of capital to the United States. I would rather be in our position, which is sustainable than in theirs, which I believe will cause great trouble in 12 months.

Problems of protection that face RUC

Mr Peter Robinson (Belfast East DUP): Which proposition does Mr Prior feel to be the more successful - for Northern Ireland MPs to request meetings with the Chief Constable of Northern Ireland concerning incidents in their constituencies or that the Chief Constable should refuse all of these meetings?

Mr Prior: It would be quite unreasonable if the decision on whether protection was to be given was left to the Chief Constable. It is only right, if the police think there is a degree of risk, that they should say that protection is to be given and should be given. I would certainly not expect that it was in any way the responsibility of Mr Graham to ask for protection.

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The problem from the RUC point of view is that they get information about a threat to a number of specific threats and targets each day. Then they have to form a judgment themselves as to how much protection they are able to give. It is not their job to protect everyone under these circumstances. Mr Peter Robinson (Belfast East DUP): Does he not appreciate that the future of the Assembly in its present form does not depend on him, but rather on Mr Hume and the SDLP? Mr Prior: The future of the Assembly depends on all people in Northern Ireland. It is true to say that the nationalist communities and the unionist communities have a veto on progress if that is the way they wish it. I would have thought the best way forward was for both sides to come together.

The Rev Ian Paisley (Antrim North, DUP): It is the purpose of the IRA and the INLA to smash the assembly so it believes the television should be used to show we are behind the assembly. Mr Prior: I am convinced the purpose of the IRA and the INLA and other terrorist organizations is to bring about a situation of total anarchy in Northern Ireland and we are playing into their hands if we allow that.

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Peers accept case for televising proceedings of the House

HOUSE OF LORDS

Viscount Whitelaw, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Lords, said in a Lords debate that, speaking only for the House of Lords, he supported a motion by Lord Soames (C) for the televising of some proceedings of the House for an experimental period and that he would vote in favour of it.

The motion instructed the sound broadcasting committee to consider and report how the decision should be implemented. Moving it, Lord Soames said that providing the business of the House which was transmitted was carefully selected and well-edited under strict ground rules, designed to facilitate the imparting of information rather than knocking or mocking, the televising of some proceedings would be a good thing to do.

It was not only the best second chamber the country had, but the best second chamber the country was likely to have for as far ahead as could be seen. We should set about trying (he said) to make the most of ourselves and go to some trouble to see that the work we do is known about by the public. It is not, I think, a hopeless task.

The powers of the House had been cut to the bone and it had been threatened with extinction. There was a strong body of opinion which believed that the House should be necessary and who were therefore in principal well disposed towards the House. I believe (he added) that the public would like to be able to see at least a second chamber of the House.

The House of Commons had shown but scant inclination to lead in this matter. If past performance was any guide, if the Lords were again to make a decision from the Commons, they might be waiting for an endlessly long time. Viscount Whitelaw said: I must make it clear that speaking only for myself, I strongly support the motion and will vote in favour of it. (Cheers) I have been a strong supporter of televising Parliament both this House and the Commons, since the debate in 1966 when I was on the losing side.

He was obliged on behalf of the Government to state the obvious - that it would wish to study carefully the public expenditure implications of any scheme for the televising of Parliament. On the general principles with which they were concerned, the Government remained neutral - though some more neutral than others. When sound broadcasting was introduced on a permanent basis in 1974, it began at the House at the same time. If this motion was carried, it might well be that a television experiment took place in the House of Lords alone. His colleagues in the House of Commons felt this was bound to lead to some practical and political problems.

Undoubtedly, any decision to televise would put pressure on the Commons to follow suit. He believed it was important that they should not act in a way which would make it difficult for the Commons to take its own decisions in its own time. It might be, therefore, that the best way for them to proceed would be, as the motion said, by way of experiment for a limited period only. An experiment in the House of Lords would give the Commons a breathing space to consider its own plans and the experience might prove helpful to it in deciding how to go forward.

Problems of protection that face RUC

Mr Peter Robinson (Belfast East DUP): Which proposition does Mr Prior feel to be the more successful - for Northern Ireland MPs to request meetings with the Chief Constable of Northern Ireland concerning incidents in their constituencies or that the Chief Constable should refuse all of these meetings?

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The problem from the RUC point of view is that they get information about a threat to a number of specific threats and targets each day. Then they have to form a judgment themselves as to how much protection they are able to give. It is not their job to protect everyone under these circumstances. Mr Peter Robinson (Belfast East DUP): Does he not appreciate that the future of the Assembly in its present form does not depend on him, but rather on Mr Hume and the SDLP? Mr Prior: The future of the Assembly depends on all people in Northern Ireland. It is true to say that the nationalist communities and the unionist communities have a veto on progress if that is the way they wish it. I would have thought the best way forward was for both sides to come together.

The Rev Ian Paisley (Antrim North, DUP): It is the purpose of the IRA and the INLA to smash the assembly so it believes the television should be used to show we are behind the assembly. Mr Prior: I am convinced the purpose of the IRA and the INLA and other terrorist organizations is to bring about a situation of total anarchy in Northern Ireland and we are playing into their hands if we allow that.

Mr John Hume (Foyle, SDP): Very few people in Northern Ireland have any faith in the Assembly. The two main parties sitting in the assembly, one of which has just rejected a decision from the Government to devolve to power which the Government had done before the Assembly elections took place. That is the fourth occasion in a decade the terms had been rejected. Mr Prior: That exemplifies the problem I have. One major party rejects it for one reason and the other rejects it for precisely opposite reasons.

Mr Thatcher, the Prime Minister, condemned as "contrary to every tenet of democracy" the scenes at London Borough of Brent Council the previous night when protesters intervened and Conservatives and Liberals were prevented from taking control of the council. Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Opposition, said he would like to know the reasons why the economic policies which could broadly and fairly be described as neo-Keynesian seem to have brought such beneficial effects so far to the United States. Budget is finalized could the principles of British economic policy be rigorously re-examined with an open mind? (Labour cheers)

Mr Thatcher: In spite of what he says, a budget deficit of this kind is causing high interest rates which are extremely damaging to this country and other European countries and are preventing us from getting the amount of investment we should have here by drawing a lot of capital to the United States. I would rather be in our position, which is sustainable than in theirs, which I believe will cause great trouble in 12 months.

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Output level above the cyclical peak in 1979

PM's QUESTIONS

Conservative governments had been very good for Britain, as was recognized at the last general election, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said in the Commons in response to questions which she had been asked.

Which policies (he asked) is she going to change to reverse this sad trend? Mrs Thatcher: Unemployment appears to have peaked. The number of vacancies is not increasing as fast as we would wish. There is considerable interest in new enterprise allowances, and as he will have seen from the trends there is a record number of people who are self-employed.

Mr Kinnock: Does she agree with me it is extremely sad that in four years there has been a drop in competitiveness to the tune of 30 per cent, investment has gone down by 20 per cent and the rate of recovery she talks about, if the present rate of progress was sustained, it would take 160 years to get back to the level of 1979. Is that 160 year rate a medium-term or long term strategy? Mrs Thatcher: Output per head and per hour now are 11 and 14 per cent above the previous cyclical peak in 1979. When the Chancellor of the Exchequer gave full details of capital expenditure, he pointed out that when you have a true definition of capital expenditure it is about the same now as it was in 1978-79. Mr David Wainwright (Wallasey North, Lab): While recognizing that hardly anything has gone right for the Prime Minister in the last few weeks - (Interruptions) - is it not unjust to deprive the Leader of the House of Commons of the job of coordinating Government policy? Why does she not recognize, like the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (Mr Prior) and the Secretary of State for Education (Mr Peter Walker), in their coded way, that it is the policies themselves which are so damaging for Britain, and not the coordination of those policies? Mrs Thatcher: I note he thinks to get inflation down is damaging for Britain, although our record is far better than Labour's. We have been far better on the National Health Service than the Labour Government. The last Labour Government achieved a reduced provision for the NHS in real terms in two of the five years they were in office.

PM attacks economic policy of US

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said during question time in the Commons that United States high interest rates were extremely damaging to Britain and that its United States economic policies would cause great trouble in a year's time. Britain's position was sustainable and preferable.

Mr Peter Tappell (Lindsey East, C) had asked: When later today she receives the United States Secretary of the Treasury, Mr Don Regan, will she discuss with him the reasons why the economic policies which could broadly and fairly be described as neo-Keynesian seem to have brought such beneficial effects so far to the United States. Budget is finalized could the principles of British economic policy be rigorously re-examined with an open mind? (Labour cheers)

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Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Sex Equality Bill, second reading.
Mr John Hume (Exeter, C): The

As Mr Kinnock took so long to comment on the House of Commons lines of Warrington, will he now unequivocally condemn violence by members of his party in Brent? Mrs Thatcher: I saw reports of the disgraceful scenes which amounted to mob rule by fascist left.

Mr Thatcher: The events in Brent were a disgrace. I am sure they are a reflection of the true nature of the fascist left.

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EEC near agreement on fisheries package

Making that order would mark a very important stage in the development of fisheries policy. It represented a key element in the full implementation of common fisheries policy and was to be welcomed even more because it would bring real benefits to the British industry.

Following discussion of the Commission's proposals for guide prices for 1984, the general agreement that the general price for plaice should be increased by 2 percentage points more than the Commission first proposed and that the price for sole should be increased by 6 rather than 5 per cent.

A number of other member states were worried about their markets for whiting and the proposal would therefore be amended to show a 5 per cent increase rather than the 6 per cent originally proposed.

The revised proposals struck an appropriate balance between the interests of the fishing industry, consumer interest and the need to protect the Community budget from the implications of any withdrawal prices too high a level.

At least six Community fisheries inspectors were already in port and he had been assured that the full complement of 13 would be in port by the end of the year. He would prefer to reserved judgment on the need for an increase in complement until they had seen how the initial number panned out.

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FISHING

As an outline of a possible compromise fisheries package on total allowable catches and other matters emerged in EEC fisheries negotiations which, if adopted, would meet the needs of British fishermen, Mr Michael Jopling, Minister for Fisheries, said in the Commons reported when opening a Commons debate on EEC fisheries on Wednesday.

He would continue to consult the industry as part of the negotiations. He expected the fixing of 1983 total allowable catches and quotas to be a major task for the Council of Fisheries Ministers on December 14. The Government had urged the Commission to come forward as early as possible with proposals for 1984.

He announced that decommissioning grants, aimed at reducing capacity in those sections of the fleet which were over-capacity, were being considered. The grants would be £400 per gross registered ton. The Community would help to fund vessels only for vessels down to 12 metres long.

Two days on telecommunications

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be: Monday: Debate on the motor industry. Coal Industry Bill, remaining stages. Tuesday: London and Regional Transport Bill, second reading. Wednesday and Thursday: Telecommunications Bill, remaining stages. Friday: House Buyers Bill, second reading.

The main business in the House of Lords will be: Monday: Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Bill, committee, second day. Tuesday: Agricultural Holdings Bill, committee, third day. Wednesday: Debate on BBC annual report for 1983. Debate on criminal injuries compensation scheme. Thursday: Restrictive Trade Practices (Stock Exchange) Bill, second reading. Friday: Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Amendment) (No 2) Bill and Disabled Persons Bill, second readings.

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All change at Charing X.

A hundred pounds to make patients more comfortable is soon completely used up. The same hundred pounds directed at rooting out a disease may never be used up. If research to that end is successful then the suffering it prevents is limitless. Incalculable numbers of people will benefit for generations to come. We need gifts from companies, charitable trusts, societies, schools and not least from individuals if our appeal is to succeed. So please act now.

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Please send your donation, as soon as possible, to: The Honorary Treasurer, Charing Cross Medical Research Centre Appeal, 100 Wood Street, London EC2 2JA.

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دكتورنا من الاصل

MPs criticize DHSS for not knowing level of social security fraud

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Severe criticism of the Department of Health and Social Security for being unable to assess how much is being lost in social security frauds and uncollected National Insurance contributions has come from the Commons public accounts committee.

An estimate by a DHSS economic adviser that £500m a year might be being lost was dismissed by Sir Geoffrey Otton, second permanent secretary at the department, as hypothetical, in evidence to the committee.

He told the committee that a Rayner survey estimate that 8 per cent of claimants were working might be too high.

But the committee says: "Whilst DHSS suspected that there was a good deal of undetected fraud, they had no enthusiasm for attempting to guess how much they were allowing to get away."

While noting that most detected fraud is for small sums, special claims control investigations "appear to indicate that a good deal of undetected fraud exists", the committee says.

"We are surprised at DHSS's attitude to the paucity of information on the extent of undetected fraud."

The large gaps in the department's knowledge mean it lacks a satisfactory basis for

deploying staff on anti-fraud activities, and until random sampling of claimants, recommended by the Fisher Committee in 1973, or an alternative system is introduced, it appears to us that... it will remain uncertain how far discovered benefit fraud represents the measure of the whole problem."

While the department argues that random sampling would involve the investigation of people about whom there was no suspicion, the committee says that such an approach could hardly be more objectionable than the present system where some investigations are launched on the basis of anonymous letters.

"Overall we do not find at all satisfactory the present situation - or the DHSS's attitude on the lack of firm information on the extent of benefit fraud."

The department has estimated that increased anti-fraud activity since 1980 had produced savings in two years of £388m, but there had been criticism that the figure was exaggerated, the committee says.

It also gives a warning that the abandonment in 1982 of the Camelot computerized system for paying benefits meant that new computerized systems would not come in until 1986 at the earliest.

"Over a period of eight years the DHSS will have failed to eliminate a weakness in their systems which leaves many claims open to error and increased the risk that fraud and abuse will not be prevented", the committee says.

Despite warnings from the DHSS that the new system would be operational only by 1986 "if all went well".

On underpayment of National Insurance contributions by company directors and others with fluctuating earnings, the committee says £50m in under payment was detected in 20 months. But the committee said it is not clear whether all were pursued and recovered.

The report is likely to prove of embarrassment to the Government, which promised tough action in 1979 to tackle benefit fraud and under payments of National Insurance contributions.

Committee of Public Accounts report: House of Commons Paper 102. (Stationery Office: £4.15).

Mr Rhodes Boyson, Minister for Social Security, has ruled that 55,000 invalidity pensioners, who moved on to long-term supplementary benefit from last month, should be eligible for one-off payments which could amount to as much as £8m (Our Political Correspondent writes).



Crime fighters: Mr Brian Hayes, chief constable of the Surrey police force which pioneered the use of police dogs in this country, with his latest recruit, Una, an alsatian aged three months. He will take charge of her early training.

Social trends: 2

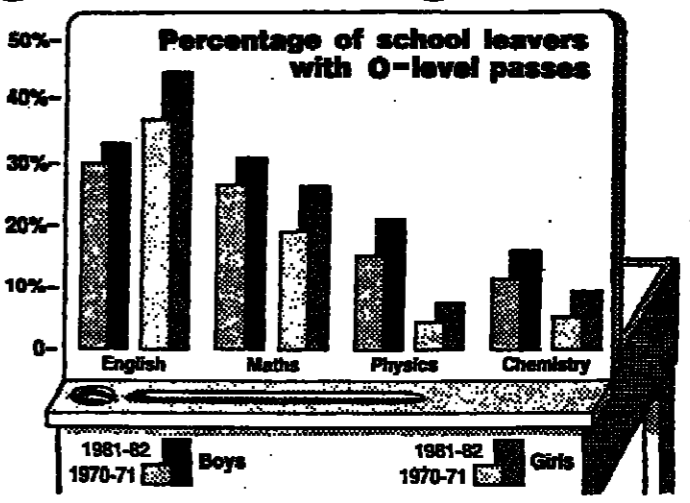
More children gain O levels and go on to college

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

More boys and girls are passing O levels at school than they did 10 years ago, with girls doing better than boys at English and boys doing better in mathematics, physics and chemistry.

According to figures in *Social Trends*, 55 per cent of school-leavers in Britain had more than one O level pass (grade A to C) in 1981-82 compared with 50 per cent in 1970-71. In the 10 years between 1970-71 and 1981-82 the proportion of boys leaving school with O level passes in English, mathematics, physics or chemistry increased by 3, 4, 6 and 4 percentage points respectively. Among girls the corresponding increases were 7, 7, 4 and 4 percentage points.

The figures were as follows:



In the six years from 1976 to 1982, there was a 19 per cent drop in primary pupil numbers because of the decline in the birth rate and numbers are expected to fall by a further 15 per cent by 1991. That will lead to a further 5 per cent drop in primary rolls and to a 25 per cent fall in secondary rolls.

Most secondary school children now go to comprehensives. In 1971 38 per cent went to comprehensives, but by 1982 it was 85 per cent in England and more than 96 per cent in Scotland and Wales.

The number of pupils staying into the sixth form has increased, from 27.5 per cent in 1975-76 to 29 per cent in 1980-81. The number going on to further and higher education has also risen, from 22.5 per cent in 1987-80 to 28 per cent in 1981-82.

Nearly a third of girls leaving school in 1981-82 went on to further or higher education, compared with just under a quarter of boys. "The trend for more school-leavers to go on to full-time further education is probably associated with rise in unemployment among young people", the report said.

The increase in the number of 16-year-olds unemployed reflected the national picture. In 1981-82, only a third of 16-year-old boys and a quarter of girls had jobs, compared with nearly half of 16-year-olds in 1975-76.

The figures show that there has been an improvement in the pupil-teacher ratio from 20.2 to 19.0 pupils per teacher between 1976 and 1982. They also show that education increases a person's earning power, and that nearly half of all college students in 1981-82 had fathers in the professional and employers and managers socioeconomic groups.

Social Trends 14, Central Statistical Office (Stationery Office, £19.95). Tomorrow: Housing

Astronauts to test 'Buck Roger's jet'

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The first jet pack for propelling astronauts about in space Buck Rogers-style will be tested in orbit next month.

If successful, it will be used later in the year by an astronaut repair spacecraft, the solar maximum satellite, so it can resume monitoring flares and variations in particles emitted by the Sun, which influence the Earth's climate and radio communications.

A description of the back pack was given by Mr C. J. Meechan, vice-president of strategic planning, North American space operations, Rockwell International, California, which built the Space Shuttle, to a meeting of the Royal Society in London yesterday.

After reviewing the achievements of the Shuttle, Mr Meechan outlined progress on other projects for launching new types of satellites, the first large optical telescope (in 1996), orbiting laboratories and the early 1990s, large permanent space platforms.

But each goal had first to be backed by new equipment and methods for working and manoeuvring in space, he said. Those technologies were being tested in the early Shuttle flights.

Mr Meechan singled out the ability to make repairs and rescue of spacecraft as crucial to future projects. Rescue schemes were concentrated on restoring satellites to working order.

In answer to questions, he said that the Shuttle was not equipped to link up with a Russian spacecraft if a cosmonaut crew needed rescuing.

However, he suggested that a Soviet spaceman in a pressurized suit could be picked up from space by the Shuttle if its cargo doors were open. The cosmonaut would then be brought into the cabin.

Mr Meechan saw no technical objection to equipping a Shuttle with a device to lock on to a Soviet spacecraft. However, a similar device for coupling would also be needed on the Russian vehicle.

He said that the apparatus known as the androgynous docking collar, which was built for the Apollo-Soyuz mission, the only time the Americans and the Russians conducted a joint manned space programme, would be adequate for standard rescue equipment to be carried on all manned vehicles.

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Footballer found gassed

Robert Wilson, aged 22, the Fulham footballer, and his wife Lesley were seriously ill with carbon monoxide poisoning yesterday after being gassed in the house that they moved into less than a month ago.

The couple were found unconscious at their semi-detached house in Woosehill, near Wokingham, Berkshire, early yesterday, by Mr Charles Crumley, Mr Wilson's uncle.

It is believed that they had lain unconscious for up to 24 hours.

He failed to revive them and they were taken to the intensive care unit of the Royal Berkshire Hospital, in Reading.

Southern Gas said yesterday: "We did not install any of this equipment but we have been called in by the police to carry out a full investigation."



Robert Wilson: Seriously ill

Newspaper complaints rejected

Complaints against two local newspapers are rejected by the Press Council today.

The *Lincolnshire Standard* had been accused by Mr T. G. B. Barnes, a defeated Boston Conservative election candidate of influencing an election by publishing an early report and photographs of his rivals on polling days.

But the editor, Mr George Wheatman, said the report of a pavement debate between Mr Barnes's rivals had nothing to do with the election. His newspapers did not take sides.

In the other case, the *Horsley Journal* had been accused of conspiracy with a ratepayer who emptied a bag of rubbish on a council official's desk.

Mr Nicholas Windrum emptied the rubbish on the desk of Haringey Borough Council's public relations officer, Mr Marcus Grodentz, watched by a reporter and photographer.

Mr Roy Lumb, the London council's chief executive, said Mr Windrum had been granted access to the office only because a receptionist recognized the journalists with him. Their presence induced Mr Windrum to do what he did.

But Mr Michael Pearce, the editor, said his staff had simply recorded the event. They would not otherwise have got the story because of a council boycott of the newspaper.

Grant for railway study

The English Tourist Board has agreed to contribute £4,000 towards a study of Carlisle-Settle railway line which is threatened with closure.

The survey, which started on Monday, has been commissioned by a steering committee from Cumbria, West Yorkshire and Lancashire county councils and will cost £32,000.

The Cumbria Tourist Board asked the English Tourist Board for a financial contribution because it wanted to emphasize the line's potential for tourism. It felt that the initiative by local authorities should be supported.

Cumbria and West Yorkshire are contributing £10,000 each. Lancashire County Council, district town and parish councils along the route and other interested bodies such as the Countryside Commission are also contributing.

Cumbria County Council said yesterday that the survey consultants would report in six months. Formal closure of the line is expected next week and a public hearing is likely to be held next autumn.

Vernons and Restormel Borough used it carefully!

... and as a result, they're the winners of this year's Gas Energy Management Awards for industry and commerce.

Every year the gas people present these awards to those organisations which, working in partnership with the Technical Consultancy Service engineers of their Gas Region, are judged to have made the most significant contribution to energy conservation.

GEM Award for Industry.

Vernon & Company (Pulp Products) Ltd, of Bolton, produce a range of high quality disposable items for hospitals under the brand name of Vernaid.

They are made by an ingenious process using reclaimed cellulose fibre derived from newspapers!

Energy used for drying accounts for 20% of Vernon's product costs, so they are very energy-conscious and, working closely with the engineers from the North West Gas Technical Consultancy Service, have adopted a wide range of energy management ideas which have resulted in a 25% fuel saving.

A further TCS project is

being considered which could lead to even greater savings.

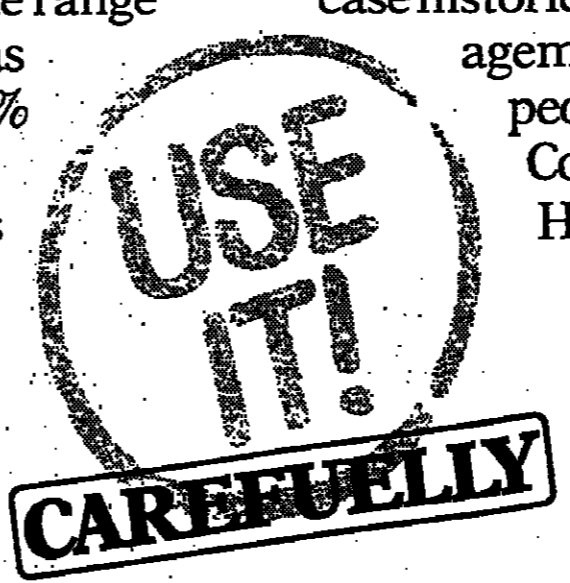
GEM Award for Commerce.

At St Austell, in Cornwall, in the Borough of Restormel is the Polkyth Leisure Centre. It is a multi-purpose sports complex built in 1974/75 and includes a swimming-pool, squash courts, general sports hall, sauna and solarium.

Naturally, a lot of energy is used here, and the Borough Council, being cost-conscious, consulted the Technical Consultancy Service Engineers at South West Gas about the recovery of waste heat. Several schemes were considered and a gas engine-driven heat pump was installed which, with other measures, has resulted in an overall saving of 72%.

Profit from our experience.

If these high efficiency achievements interest you, you owe it to yourself, and your shareholders or ratepayers, to find out more. For details of these and other case histories from the Gas Energy Management Awards, write to the gas people - British Gas, Technical Consultancy Service, 326 High Holborn, London WC1V 7PT.



WONDERFUEL GAS - FROM THE GAS PEOPLE

Israelis find six reasons to justify their policy of getting tough with Syria

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Mr Yitshak Shamir's Government is basing its new hard-line military policy in Lebanon - particularly the renewal of bombing raids - on the central assumption that Syria has recently lost its initiative there.

In an interview with *The Times*, a senior official with close links to Mr Shamir gave a warning that any withdrawal of the European contingents of the peacekeeping force in Beirut would be seen as "an acceptance of Syria and would lead automatically to greater instability and more bloodshed."

He outlined six reasons why the Government believes Syria has lost the upper hand and can be more easily persuaded by a tough military policy to rethink its refusal to contemplate withdrawing its forces. He said that all of them were shared by the Reagan Administration and had been discussed extensively during the recent Washington summit.

The reasons given were: ● President Assad's serious illness. Israeli intelligence is now "more or less certain" he suffered a severe heart attack, with complications from diabetes and a probable blood clot in the head. The official said President Assad was being treated by a leading neurologist as well as a cardiologist.

● The fact that Syria discovered at the Geneva conference that the Lebanese Salvation Front was not standing as firmly or unitedly behind it as had been expected.

● Information that the Soviet Union has recently told Syria it does not want the renewal of full-scale warfare in Lebanon or the breakdown of the Geneva conference.

● The Syrians had not realized that President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon would stand up so resolutely against its demand for abrogation of the May 17 Israel-Lebanon pact.

● The Syrians were also taken back by the recent resumption of Israeli air attacks in Lebanon. "For months they believed that we would not retaliate because they did not think the Israeli public would wear it", the official told me.

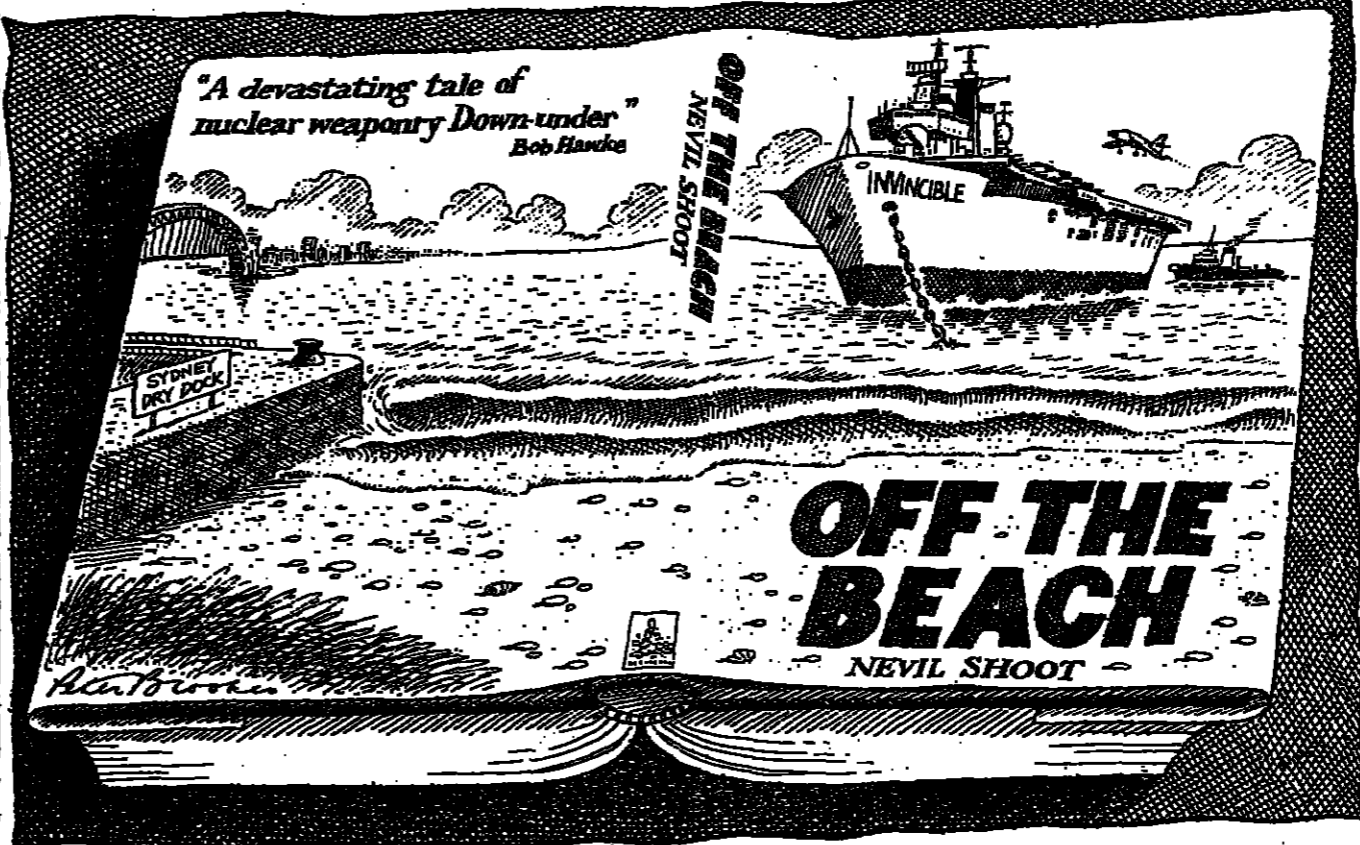
● The "very tough stand" taken by the Americans, whom the Israeli Cabinet believes are no longer afraid to stand up to the Arab world, largely because of the blunting of the oil weapon.

was no contradiction in the recent strategic cooperation agreement with the United States and the strident denials from Jerusalem and Washington of any collusion over last weekend's air raids.

He claimed that the Washington agreement had covered the broader field of cooperation rather than tactical coordination on the ground. "The Israel Defence Forces do not like tactical arrangements with other defence establishments. They prefer to operate independently," he said.

The official hinted strongly that more Israeli attacks in Lebanon could be expected because of the Government's assessment that Syria was unprepared to escalate the conflict into a Middle East war. The evidence is that the Syrians are prepared to fight to the last Druze or Palestinian militiaman, but not to the last Syrian soldier, he said.

According to military experts here, both the Druze and Palestinians have recently lost much of their motivation for fighting against Israel - the Druze because they have achieved their objective of control in the Chouf mountains, and the Palestinians because of the bitter fighting inside the P.L.O.



Sydney turns away damaged Invincible

From Tony Dubouain, Melbourne

The Australian Government has denied the British aircraft carrier HMS Invincible access to the Royal Australian Navy Dockyard at Garden Island in Sydney harbour because it refused to confirm or deny whether it was carrying nuclear weapons.

Invincible had been engaged in exercises with elements of the Royal Australian Navy and developed a vibration problem in its starboard propeller.

The official version from the British side on the incident was that Invincible would not be using the dockyard for "operational reasons".

Invincible is now moored off Woolloomooloo in a bay near the naval dockyard. Yesterday British naval divers were seen going down to inspect the propeller.

Mr Gordon Scholes, the Defence Minister, said it was Australian Government policy not to allow nuclear arms on Australian soil.

Four agree to keep troops in Lebanon

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The urgent need to pool the information collected by the four countries making up the multinational "peacekeeping" force in the Lebanon, was agreed by the foreign ministers of the US, Italy, France and Britain when they met over breakfast in Brussels yesterday. The view put forward by Sir Geoffrey Howe was that they could all do more behind the scenes at the political level to try to bring about a reconciliation between the different factions in the country. It was also agreed that the security interests of Syria had to be respected.

At the same time, under strong pressure from the Americans, the Italians promised to maintain their force at present levels, although it was clear that Signor Giulio Andreotti, Foreign Minister, wanted some to be withdrawn.

"I think that we can and must return to the initial agreements with the Lebanese Government," he said later. "These agreements are about 1,100 Italian troops in Beirut. Now we have doubted that number. But the withdrawal has to be done in the light of the new situation in Sabra and Chatila and in the light of the Lebanese reconciliation process. Italy does not want to be responsible for failure of the Geneva talks."

The ministers did not, however, talk about withdrawal, their spokesmen insisted afterwards, and M Claude Cheysson, the French Minister, said: "It would be completely wrong on our part to reduce our involvement while there is hope that the Geneva reconciliation talks can succeed."

It was the first time the four ministers had got together to discuss the Lebanon since their meeting in Paris on October 27. They used the occasion to emphasize that the mission was a peaceful one with the twofold objective of helping reconciliation in the Lebanon and securing the withdrawal of all foreign forces. The intention was "to deescalate and not reescalate the violence" in the words of an American official.

As far as reconciliation was concerned, "there has been some movement, but we want to see more." The ministers felt "this was a two-way street." Although they wanted the government to act "there are other players and there is as much need for them as there is in this context the Americans agreed that the different countries in the multinational force had contacts "with different factions and different players." It was vital that they should pool their information so that they could have a better chance of helping the reconciliation process.

Gemayel will spend two days in London

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon will pay his first official visit to this country on December 13 and 14, Downing Street announced yesterday. He is coming at the invitation of Mrs Margaret Thatcher, who will host a luncheon at Number 10 during talks on the Lebanon crisis next Wednesday. The president will also see Sir Geoffrey Howe at the Foreign Office, but it is not yet known which, if any, other Beirut ministers will be accompanying him.

Marines may move to safer ground

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The Pentagon is preparing to move US Marines from Beirut Airport either to safer ground in Lebanon or to amphibious ships off the coast, according to reports yesterday in several American newspapers.

The *New York Times* said the plan was still being worked out by the joint chiefs of staff and had not yet been presented to the National Security Council. However, the Administration is expected to welcome any workable suggestion to improve the safety of the Marines.

Washington has been weighing various options since the bombing of the Marine headquarters on October 23, which resulted in 240 deaths. A further eight Marines were killed when their positions were shelled after last Sunday's air raid by US jets against targets in Syrian-occupied Lebanon.

One plan would involve moving the Marines south of the airport along the road to Tyre where they would be away from the factional strife of Beirut. They could also be based on amphibious vessels, sending in small units for short tours of duty to maintain a visible presence.

A Pentagon spokesman yesterday said there was no question of withdrawing the Marines altogether. There are almost 2,000 in Beirut as part of the multinational peacekeeping force.

Nato analyses nuclear chess game strategy

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels

There was no great sense of surprise or excitement among Nato Foreign Ministers when they learnt of the way the Soviet Union had abruptly ended the strategic arms talks in Geneva. "They have not walked out of the talks, they have simply not given a date when they will be resumed. They will be back." That is how British sources summed up the latest move by the Soviet Union in the diplomatic chess game over nuclear disarmament.

The ministers were meeting in Brussels for the Nato Council and the current state of East-West relations was top of the agenda for their long restricted session. Behind closed doors they were analysing the present Soviet strategy in the wake of the first deployment of cruise and Pershing 2 missiles in Europe, when news arrived from Geneva of the Soviet delegation's move.

The session authorized the publication of a 49-page document which tells the story from Nato's point of view of the so-called INF talks on medium-range nuclear missiles, up to the time the Soviet Union withdrew from them last month. Publication of the document is part of Nato's attempt to improve its image with the peace movement and to prove it has an "open chair" policy in all negotiations.

Introducing the document Mr Richard Burt, the American chairman of the Nato contact group on the INF talks, revealed that the Soviet Union had just completed another SS20 base, raising the number deployed to 369, with 1,107 warheads between them.

He said that the new site is inside the Soviet Union and although it was in Asia. He summed up what had happened in the INF talks this way: "The United States pursued the negotiations while the Soviet Union deployed but the Soviet Union suspended its participation in the negotiations when the United States began to deploy."

After a week in California, the Russians still refuse to say for sure whether they are definitely coming to the July, 1984, Olympic Games. Mr Marat Gramov, the Soviet Sports Minister and chairman of the National Olympic Committee, revealed that the Russians will leave it to the last possible legal minute to decide - about May 28, or two months before the Games are due to start.

Mr Gramov said: "We do not see any reasons why the Soviet team would stay away from the Games."



Balled out: Belgian referee Alfons Ponnert and riot police sprinting from the field in Milan under a hail of stones hurled by the angry crowd whose team, Internazionale, had just lost 2-3 in a UEFA Cup match with Austria Vienna.

Russia goes to brink on Olympics

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Australia to ditch Queen but not God

From Our Correspondent Melbourne

There may be no place for the Queen in the proposed oath of allegiance for intending new Australian citizens, but there is still a place for God.

A move on Tuesday in the parliamentary caucus of the ruling Labour Party to allow people seeking citizenship to make a pledge rather than an oath was soundly defeated. The caucus opted instead to offer a choice of pledge or oath.

Under amendments to Australia's Citizenship Act, introduced into the Federal Parliament on Wednesday night, reference to the Queen will be deleted, the qualifying period for citizenship reduced from three years' residence in the previous eight years to two years in the previous five, a right of appeal established, the English-language requirement eased, and British subject status scrapped.

In the caucus debate on the question of an oath, or pledge, Mr West recommended that a pledge only be allowed, but he faced stiff opposition. Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, indicated that he supported retention of the oath. Mr Hawke is the son of a clergyman, though he is now a professed agnostic.

The main thrust of the Citizenship Act is to confirm an Australian identity. Mr West said that abolition of the reference to the Queen was designed to end concern felt by many people at swearing allegiance to an overseas sovereign.

He said that the decision was taken after consultations begun by the previous Government and was designed to reflect that Australia was an independent nation. The new "pledge of Australian citizenship", in both pledge and oath forms, calls for renouncing citizenship and allegiance to any state other than Australia.

Two Britons disappear in Paris

Paris - The British Embassy last night confirmed the disappearance of two British businessmen in Paris in the past week, but said it had no information about the circumstances (Diana Geddes writes). Both were last seen on December 1 and were reported missing by their wives.

Mr Niall Campbell, aged 42, an ICI economic forecaster from Harrogate, left his papers and belongings in the Hotel Vernet.

Mr Robert Graham, aged 27, an accountant from London, left all his belongings at the Hotel Athens.

French lift curb on currency

Paris (AFP) - Controversial restrictions on currency for foreign travel introduced by France last March are to be lifted from December 30.

The restrictions were badly received by the public and travel agents protested that their businesses were at risk.

Crew rescued

Chandler, Quebec (AP) - A drifting Peruvian cargo ship, the Unisol, ran aground and split in two in stormy weather in the Gulf of St Lawrence, spewing an estimated 500 tons of heavy oil into the water. The crew of 35 was rescued by Canadian helicopters.

Monkeys saved

Kuala Lumpur (Reuter) - Malaysia will stop exporting monkeys from next June because it discovered the animals are being used in nuclear tests and tortured. Japan, Taiwan and Hongkong took last year's exports.

Bunny ban

Singapore (Reuter) - Singapore has banned baggies from wearing bunny costumes and swimsuits, and ordered that they should wear uniforms instead. Dimly-lit bars must improve lighting.

Nakasone blow

Tokyo (Reuter) - A poll published 10 days before Japan's general election shows a sharp decline in support for Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone's Cabinet, down by 8 per cent since June.

Junta limps off the stage

From Douglas Tweedale, Buenos Aires

The military Government which slipped out of power in a virtual disgrace this week had the tact if not open support of most Argentines when it overthrew President Maria Estela Peron in March 1976 and started a "process of national reorganization".

The Peronist administration has been such a shambles that most breathed a sigh of relief when the three-man junta which had seized power stated its objectives: to end corruption, to strengthen the economy and to end terrorism.

In this context the Americans agreed that the different countries in the multinational force had contacts "with different factions and different players." It was vital that they should pool their information so that they could have a better chance of helping the reconciliation process.

more than 400 per cent. In addition, the military is accused of atrocities in its fight against terrorism.

Señora Peron, who was tried by the military and kept under house arrest for five years, is expected to return from exile today to find two of the three officers who ousted her in somewhat different circumstances.

General Jorge Videla, a member of the first junta and the only president of the "process" to complete his self-imposed term, is being sued by a leading Peronist politician, accused of abuse of power.

The former navy commander, Admiral Emilio Massera, who cultivated an image as the most dashing and charismatic member of the 1976 junta, has become the first to be jailed for his role in one of more than 7,000 "disappearances" which occurred after the coup.

Also on trial are the members of the junta which ordered the invasion of the Falkland Islands last year. A military commission which investigated the conflict ruled that President Leopoldo Galtieri, the former navy commander, Admiral Jorge Anaya and the former air force chief, Brigadier-General Basilio Lami Dozo, should be held responsible for leading the country into a war for which it was not prepared.

General Galtieri, who had hopes of using a victory in the Falklands to launch his own political career, is accused of crimes during the conflict, which carry the death penalty. Admiral Anaya faces a similar sentence and General Lami Dozo could receive life imprisonment if convicted in the court-martial now under way.

Human rights mothers look to Alfonsin

From Our Correspondent Buenos Aires

Relatives of more than 7,000 Argentines who have disappeared under military rule gathered yesterday for the last human rights demonstration before Señor Raul Alfonsin takes office as president.

The march was organized by the mothers of Plaza De Mayo, a group of women who have staged a weekly demonstration in front of Government House to demand information about their missing children from the military government.

One of the mothers said yesterday: "Next Thursday we will demonstrate under President Alfonsin. We are confident that under a civilian government the courts will begin acting properly."

Human rights groups have documented more than 7,000 cases of people who disappeared after being kidnapped by government security forces and secret death squads.

UN seeks assurance on E African refugees

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

The United Nations and some Western states are pressing Kenya and Tanzania for assurances on the status of political refugees, following the recent forcible repatriation of some nationals of both countries.

Two officials of the UN High Commission for Refugees yesterday completed visits to both countries, during which they expressed concern to ministers and officials about the effect of a recent agreement that fugitive offenders will not be given asylum in another East African country.

Their visit follows reports here that the two self-confessed leaders of last year's Kenya coup attempt, who were granted political asylum in Tanzania, have been handed back to Kenya. They are Air Force private Hizekiel Ochuok and Sergeant Pancras Okumu.

UN seeks assurance on E African refugees

Hattie Maghee, who escaped from jail in Tanzania earlier this year after being accused of participation in a coup plot, made no statement on the repatriations, but neither has denied press reports that they have taken place.

The two UN officials, M Michel Moussey and M Chefke Dessalegh, have expressed concern that the accepted principles of asylum for refugees have been ignored.

Some Western governments, who are important aid donors for the two countries, have also expressed their concern and are pressing for a statement. The two countries are understood to have agreed with each other that the legal provision which applied here under the East African Community - for the automatic repatriation of fugitive offenders within East Africa - has never been repealed.

Commentary
Geoffrey Smith

The most telling moment when Mrs Thatcher made her statement on the Athens summit to the House of Commons on Wednesday came when Mr Geoffrey Rippon agreed emphatically with the stand she had taken. The man who negotiated British entry to the Community more than 10 years ago was accepting the policy which some people believe might take Britain out again.

It was a measure of the broad support that Mrs Thatcher enjoys on this issue, not just across party lines but also across the more significant division between European enthusiasts and critics. Dr Owen was unequivocal in the backing he offered on behalf of the SDP. The only important dissent was Mr Kinnoch, who misjudged not only the mood of the House of Commons but also the tactical situation.

There is no party political advantage to be derived from attacking Mrs Thatcher for the line she took in Brussels. The moment when she might become politically vulnerable will be if she makes concessions in order to do a deal. The best tactics for Mr Kinnoch would have been to congratulate her on her stand at Athens and to seek assurance that she would not in future deviate by one inch from the position she adopted there. He should have tried to tie her ankles with his felicitations.

The breadth of Mrs Thatcher's political support on this question comes partly from a recognition of British public opinion prudent politicians. But it comes even more from an appreciation that the Community will have to be changed if Britain is not to be perpetually in conflict with its partners. Ardent Europeans like Mr Rippon are not wanting to heat up the community. They believe on the contrary that reforms necessary for its future success.

Double advantage for Britain

If present trends were allowed to continue unchecked, Britain would in due course be Spain and Portugal, both relatively poor countries with large farming sectors, will considerably increase the burden on the Community Budget. That need not necessarily raise the cost to Britain. There are more than compensating savings that could be made in the common agricultural policy, most obviously in the financing of milk production.

But if the pressures on Britain are great, so are they on other members of the Community. It will not be possible for them to meet Britain's requirements without serious political embarrassment. In France, for example, there has for some years been an awareness of the intellectual cost of reforming the CAP. But an intellectual awareness is not the same as a political willingness. It is rather the attitude of St Augustine when he prayed: "Let me be chaste, O Lord but not yet."

The appeal of chastity may become somewhat greater if the alternative is seen to be death. The collapse of the CAP would be even more painful than its modification for those countries with large farming sectors. They need a settlement even more than Britain.

Nonetheless, it requires political courage for any political leader to act on his country's long-term interests rather than his own short-term convenience. So one cannot take it for granted that the impasse is bound to be resolved.

In these circumstances Britain has a double advantage. The British people showed in the general election campaign that they would prefer to remain in the Community. But they have no sentimental attachment to it.

The second advantage is one of timing. Britain can afford to wait while the pressures mount on the other members. Mrs Thatcher remarked significantly in the House of Commons on Wednesday: "The European Community is not in default with us on its obligations. Were it to default on its obligations, then we would have to take steps to safeguard our position."

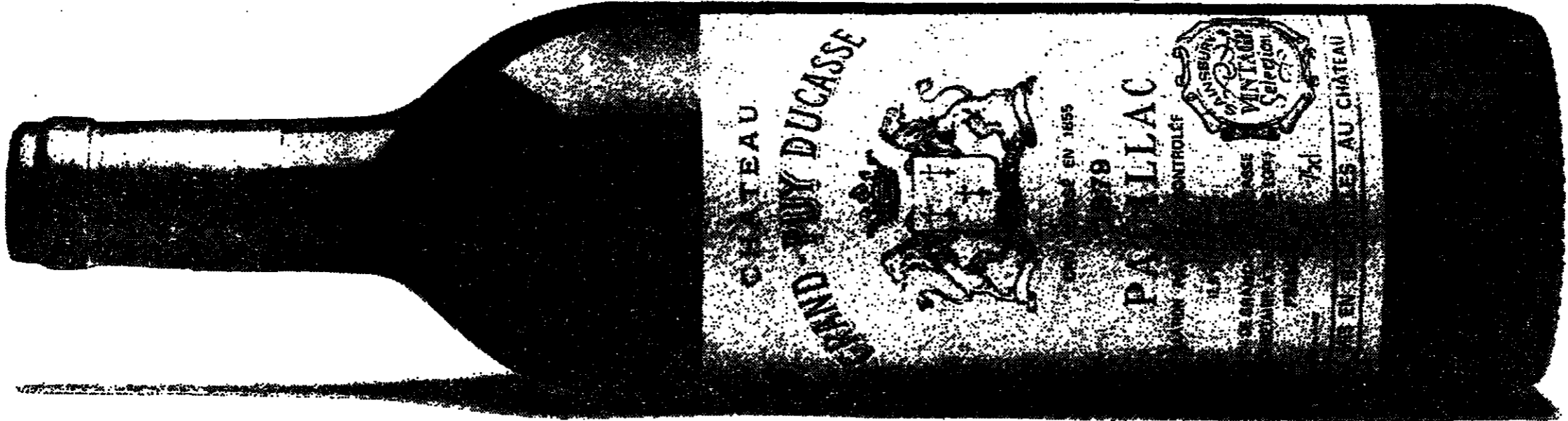
This suggests that Britain will do nothing until the Community's money begins to run out. Then the EEC would be forced to reduce its agricultural payments and individual governments would start to make up the difference. At that point, the British Government could claim that the Community was no longer fulfilling its obligations, that the basis of competition had been changed, and that Britain would therefore be justified in withholding its contributions.

كندا من الأصل

Sainsbury's Vintage Selection.

It reads like the wine list in a good restaurant.

Until you come to the prices.



If you're a wine buff who's been buffeted by rising prices you'll welcome our Vintage Selection.

You'll find the quality familiar and the prices, quite often, nostalgic.

All thirty-one wines have been tasted and tested by our wine buyers, who have been working, if you can call it work on this selection for 18 months. (Over 600 wines were considered.)

All of the wines are ready to drink now though some are suitable for laying down.

Many of them come with established reputations like the Puligny Montrachet or Château Grand Puy Ducasse.

Some are more unusual like the delicious dessert wine Moulin Touchais from the Loire - or our dry red wine from Portugal called Quinta Da Bacalhóa.

Many are virtually exclusive to Sainsbury's and all bear our Vintage Seal on the label.

You'll find the complete list in 60 of our largest stores and a further 160 stores will carry a good selection. (If you discover some wines not on this list, don't worry, we're constantly adding to our selection and all the wines have been vetted.)

We hope you'll enjoy reading about the wines below and that you'll be tempted to turn a wine list into something even more satisfying.

A shopping list.

1. Château Grand Puy Ducasse 1979 Pauillac. A classic Claret from one of the most important communes in the Médoc. Full bodied with good fruit and tannin this wine will develop over the next three or four years into a fine wine of distinction. £7.45.

2. Château Jean-Fauré 1979 Grand Cru St. Émilion. Like all St. Émilions this wine will drink younger than the great growth clarets and is already soft and fruity. The 1979 is delightfully drinkable and offers, along with elegant medium weight, a bouquet with a hint of violets. £5.45.



3. Château de Poncie 1981 Fleurie. The true charm and distinction of one of the most delicate of the Beaujolais. Granite soil and the Gamay grape have combined in one of the more southerly Beaujolais Villages to produce a wine which is soft, fruity and delicately perfumed. Superb with cold meats or cheese - but many would say with anything. £4.35.

4. Château Tourteau Chollet 1980 Graves. Graves, a huge area of wine production to the south of Bordeaux is famed for its rich, slightly spicy red wines. Small proprietors abound in the area, producing wines which are firm when young and pay for keeping. Here is a pleasant fruity example of medium weight which will go happily with most meats or cheese. £3.60.

5. Château du Bousquet 1981 Côtes de Bourg. Less well known than the Médocs which lie opposite, the wines of the Côtes de Bourg offer excellent value for money. The best of the slopes, near the river, include the vines from which this splendid example is formed. Although it will keep, it can be enjoyed now. £3.20.

6. Gevrey Chambertin 1978. Amongst the richest and most enduring of all the great Burgundies, this full-bodied and powerful wine, from the celebrated village on the slopes of the Côte de Nuits, will be enjoyed with the richer meats. £8.95.

7. Côte de Brouilly 1982. Produced on the granite soil of the most northerly of the nine nominated 'cru' villages which produce the best of the Beaujolais. Côte de Brouilly is fruity and fresh. £3.45.

8. Domaine André Brunel 1980 - Châteauneuf du Pape. Châteauneuf du Pape is recognised the world over as the finest of the southern Rhônes. Dark, strong and long-lived. This is a fine example from the rocky vineyard of one of the leading growers and two or three years more bottle age will improve it. £4.95.

9. Gigondas 1981. Like its more famous neighbour Châteauneuf du Pape, Gigondas is a deep, hearty, robust red wine, taking its character from the Grenache grapes which predominate in the blend. It will hold its own with game, roasts, casseroles and all cheese dishes. £4.35.

10. Château la Borde - Rhône 1982. This is the product of a vineyard which was totally replanted 20 years ago. (It has grown in reputation as a result.) The presence of Syrah and Grenache in the blend gives the slight peppery sensation on the palate which is so characteristic of a Rhône wine. £2.99.



11. Château Barreyres 1979 Haut-Médoc. The Médoc, on the west bank of the river, is the most important red wine district of Bordeaux. Here, from just north of the Margaux, is an excellent fruity claret of medium weight, which has been made with great care and would even improve with a few years bottle age. £3.55.

12. Domaine du Colombier 1982 Chinon. Though less well-known there are some fine fresh light reds from the gravel soils of the Loire. This one has a distinct fruitiness and pleasant acidity. It is best drunk young and will happily accept a degree of chilling. £3.75.

13. Château de Gougazaud 1980 or 1982 - Minervois. From the hilly country of the Languedoc-Roussillon but with more of the Cabernet Sauvignon grape than is usual. This makes for a distinctive medium-bodied wine of charm - robust enough for most meats and cheeses. £4.99. (Magnum.)

14. Clos de La Mouchère 1980 or 1981 - Puligny Montrachet. Another great classic dry French white wine. Produced to the north of Meursault and lacking some of its softness it is, perhaps, the ultimate accompaniment to oysters but enhances any fish or white meat. £8.45.

15. Domaine De La Bizolière 1982 Savennières. The white Anjou wines to the western end of the Loire Valley are characteristically dry and full bodied - some say with the crispness of new apples. Here is a fine example, best drunk young and served chilled, it is slightly flowery with good acidity. £3.60.

16. Sancerre Les Perriers 1982. This was a good year in the Loire, where the Sauvignon grapes grown on limestone produce elegant, dry white wines. This fresh and fruity wine from Verdigny Commune is best drunk young and slightly chilled. £4.65.



17. Meursault Moillard 1980. Meursault's Pinot Chardonnay grapes provide some of the world's great white wines. Rich, smooth and dry, but mellow. This is a fine example, soft and full, which will mature and improve for two or three years. £6.95.

18. Moulin Touchais 1964 - Anjou. The valley of the Loire shelters the Chenin Blanc vines from which are made some exceptional white wines. In the limestone 'caves' at Doué la Fontaine lies a huge selection of some of France's best kept wine secrets. Moulin Touchais is one. The perfect dessert wine with plenty of fruit and a balanced sweetness best revealed when chilled. £5.75.

19. Château Tertre du Moulin 1982 Entre-deux-Mers. Between the 'two seas' of the Dordogne and the Garonne lies a vast area of wine production. The whites of this area are allowed the 'appellation'. Here is a crisp, fruity dry white wine from a grower with an established reputation for consistent quality. £2.75.

20. Clos St. Georges 1981 Graves Supérieures. Long before Graves was known for the red wines with which it is now most associated, it had a high reputation for sweet white wines. Clos St. Georges is found on the borders of Barsac. It has depth, style and length, which come through impressively on the palate. £2.99.

21. Château de Beaulieu 1980 Coteaux Du Layon. Beaulieu is one of only six communes in this sheltered area to the south of the Loire to be granted the 'appellation'. This is an exceptional medium sweet white wine with lots of fruit and an acidity of considerable length which give it great style and depth. At its best lightly chilled with fresh fruit. £2.80.

22. Muscat de Beaumes-De-Venise. This is a naturally sweet white wine from the southern end of the Rhône Valley. The sun has ample time to develop the sugar and add a delicate perfume and flavour. A dessert wine of great distinction. £4.25.

23. Chablis Premier Cru 1981 or 1982. One of the best known dry white wines of France from the small area of Chablis some 100 miles south east of Paris. Only the finer vineyards are designated Premier Cru. A classic wine ideal with white meat or fish. £4.35.

24. Château des Bidaudières Vouvray 1982. The Chenin Blanc grapes growing around this small village near Tours in the Loire Valley produce a medium dry white wine with good fruit and acidity. This wine will also improve on keeping. £3.45.

25. Uerziger Würzgarten Auslese 1975 or 1976 Moselle. The Riesling wines of Würzgarten are sheltered by mountains and this fragrant and spicy sweet wine is produced from selected (auslese) grapes. Serve chilled with desserts or as a special aperitif. £5.99.



26. Domaine De La Bretonnerie 1982, Muscadet De Sevre et Maine Sur Lie. This Muscadet is named after two of the Loire's great tributaries. It has the added fruitiness which results from the grapes remaining longer on the lees ('sur lie'). Ideal with fish - especially shellfish. A light, dry and refreshing white wine. £2.99.

27. Kiedticher Heiligenstock Kabinett 1982 Rheingau. From the pride of Germany's wineland come some splendid white wines. This one is no exception. Elegant and well-balanced it is a distinguished accompaniment to most white meat and fish. £4.20.

28. Deidesheimer Hergotsacker Kabinett 1981 or 1982 Rheinpfalz. Wines from the Palatinate are rich, well flavoured, and lively and Deidesheimer is regarded as one of the best villages. This is a light medium dry white wine and versatile enough for fish, poultry or a chilled aperitif. £4.10.

29. Apertiner Gewürztraminer Beerenauslese 1981 or 1982. Specially selected and overripe grapes from the Gewürztraminer vines at Apertin in the Burgenland of Austria, produce a wine of concentrated sweetness and depth to compare with the best of the Sauternes. Lightly chilled, it's superb with fruit or dessert. £4.95.

30. Amaron Pasqua 1978. This is a Recioto della Valpolicella - not to be confused with the more popular wine of the latter name. Only the grapes from the 'ears' of the vine which have begun to dry in the sun are used. The result is an impressive dry red wine of high quality and full flavour. £3.95.

31. Quinta da Bacalhóa 1981. Portuguese red wines have been a rather well-kept secret for too long. This one produced from Cabernet Sauvignon grapes, matured in chestnut casks, is similar to a dry red Bordeaux. Like all Portuguese reds, it will improve with keeping. £3.65.

Good wine costs less at Sainsbury's.

Democrats hope to beat Reagan with help of recession-hit blacks

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The main significance of the Rev Jesse Jackson's decision to seek the Democratic presidential nomination lies not in the number of votes he will get at next year's party convention but in the fact that he is the first black to do so in the history of the party. This move began during the Carter Administration but has accelerated rapidly since President Reagan came to office.

Mr. Jackson is, in effect, riding the crest of a new political awakening among America's 27 million blacks. This movement began during the Carter Administration but has accelerated rapidly since President Reagan came to office.



Mr. Jackson: Harvesting black resentment

According to the Joint Centre for Political Studies in Washington, black voter registration now stands at about 10.5 million. In total there are 17.6 million blacks of voting age, most of them concentrated in the South and the industrial areas of the North.

yet the number of unregistered blacks amounted to almost a million. The impact which increased registration can have been demonstrated in a number of municipal races this year, notably in Chicago, where black turnout increased by 120,000, and Philadelphia, where it went up by about 100,000. Both cities elected black mayors for the first time in their history.

They also believe they can help to defeat such notable right-wingers as Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, and Senator Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, as well as a number of Southern conservative Democrats, known as "boll weevils", who enabled President Reagan to get his controversial economic programme approved by Congress.



Kidnap victim: Hooded guerrillas guarding Señor Jaime Betancur, brother of the President of Colombia, at a press conference before releasing him. They kidnaped him a fortnight ago.

Rapist says yes to castration sentence

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

One of three men convicted of rape and told by a judge to undergo castration between 30 years in prison and castration says he would prefer to be castrated. "Either way, I'm going to be castrated," Roscoe Brown, aged 27, said. "But to be castrated and not able to contribute to the world would be more damaging to me than to undergo castration. A 30-year sentence would do nothing to rehabilitate me."

Harmony in talks on Hongkong

From David Bonavia, Hongkong

The Anglo-Chinese talks on the future of Hongkong here continued yesterday on a note of harmony which contrasted with the anti-British propaganda by "China" that accompanied some earlier sessions. A joint statement in Peking said that the 15-month-old negotiations "reviewed the course of the talks and the progress made so far". It demanded that a general framework of agreement be reached by September next year, and a Chinese spokesman said on Wednesday that any "turnout" in Hongkong would result in the territory's being reoccupied by China before the accepted 1997 deadline.

The British delegation was headed this week for the last time by Sir Percy Cradock, the Ambassador, who is returning to London soon. At the next session in January the senior British negotiator will be Mr. Richard Evans.

Sir Edward Youde, Governor of Hongkong, who also attends the talks, is considered by the Chinese side to be merely a member of the British delegation, with special authority to speak for the people of Hongkong.

China has promised that Hongkong will retain internal autonomy after 1997 and remain its capitalist system and way of life - according to some reports, for 50 years.

Many well-to-do and qualified people are already leaving or making plans to settle abroad, taking their capital with them. The territory's economy has recovered somewhat since the devaluation of the dollar last September.

Jardine's Hongkong's most famous old trading company has announced it will not sponsor the fireworks display usually held on New Year's Eve because of the depressed economic climate.

Lambsdorf charged with corruption

From Michael Blaylock, Bonn

Otto Graf Lambsdorf, the Minister of Economics, was yesterday charged formally with corruption. The Bonn public prosecutor accused him in the district court of accepting DM135,000 (about £34,000) from the Flick Group of companies in return for tax concessions.

The prosecutor announced 10 days ago that he would bring charges against the coast and four other members in the affair, but was unable to do so until parliament lifted the minister's immunity. Count Lambsdorf was among those members of the Bundestag who voted to do so last week.

The indictment has still not been served on the count by yesterday evening. While maintaining his innocence, he has refused to make any statement about his future until reading the charges, which he is expected to receive today, but Chancellor Helmut Kohl has said the count would remain in parliament until the minister's trial.

Computer error blamed in Korean jet disaster

From John Best, Ottawa

The inquiry by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has concluded that a computer programming error probably started the chain of events that led to the destruction of Korean Airline's Flight 007 over Soviet territory on September 1.

All 269 people on board the jetliner flying from Anchorage, Alaska, to Seoul died when it was shot down by the Russians. The inquiry set up despite Soviet objections in the wake of the disaster, found that a navigational computer was probably programmed incorrectly, according to a CBC news report from Montreal.

ICAO experts in Montreal, where the organization has its headquarters, said that an error in placing coordinates could have led to the airliner following a more easterly course across the Pacific than it should have followed.

"You have to make the assumption that the crew wasn't paying much attention," an ICAO source is quoted as saying. ICAO withheld comment on the extent of the error had been considered from the beginning the "most plausible explanation" of why the plane was off course.

The report of the inquiry is being made up of ICAO specialists will be debated by the Council of the organization on Monday. No decision has been made as to whether or when it will be made public.

Winning the diplomatic war

Burma bomb exploded in North's face

In a concluding article from Seoul, North Korea's foreign policy successes and the adverse effect they have had on relations with North Korea.

Though the shooting stopped 30 weeks ago, South Korea's diplomatic contest with the North often looks more like war than diplomacy. The Rangoon bombing, which killed 17 South Korean officials, including four Cabinet ministers, appears to have been an attempt not only to cause chaos in the South by assassinating President Chun Doo-hwan but also to limit Seoul's trading and diplomatic contacts.

"At all cost, the North wants to prevent South Korea's recognition by the international community and frustrate Seoul's desire for United Nations representation. The 'war' presence of President Chun Doo-hwan's big delegation was evidence of the South's success in winning contacts in Burma and building up a diplomatic relationship, which directly challenges the previously close Burmese link with the communist Party in North Korea.

Burma's "recognition" of the North after carefully assessing the evidence in the bombing was a stunning blow for the North, given Burma's reputation as the only truly non-aligned nation in the world. It will also damage North Korea's standing in the non-aligned movement, where it had been something of a foil to Cuban ambitions.

The immediate diplomatic benefits of the bombing for Seoul have come in the form of the South's renewed private contracts with the North and the reversal of an American ruling under which social contacts between Americans and North Koreans would have been permitted if the initiative came from the north.

But that is likely to be the extent of American interest in lessening tensions between Seoul and Pyongyang, and the United States has no desire to back the North further as a counterweight in mind its military superiority over the South and its reputation for being unpredictable.

Recognition by the Government of Pakistan has been another gain for the Seoul Government, but that - apart from the 20 or so countries that took action against the North or issued condemnatory statements after the Burmese verdict - must be considered a rather modest response in view of the viciousness of the attack.

South Korea's diplomats are working hard to secure recognition from other countries, with Egypt topping the list of possibilities. Other potential targets are in Africa, where the North has friends.

Bangladesh bid to cut down the Russians

From Michael Hamlyn, Dhaka

Diplomats in Dhaka are watching with acute interest the outcome of the Bangladesh attempt to "cut the Soviet mission" to size.

"It is the biggest anti-Soviet step that any non-aligned country has ever made," said one Western envoy. "A number of other non-aligned countries might say they have been wanting to do this for a long time," the Bangladesh Government can accomplish it."

There appears to be clear evidence that the Russians have been behaving badly in the country. Their embassy with 38 diplomats and nearly 90 non-diplomatic Russian staff is by far the largest in the capital, and there is very little by way of trade, or aid which could fully occupy such a number.

Dual newspapers claim that demonstrators who turned a peaceful sit-down strike outside the government secretariat building on November 28 into a full-blooded riot were in Soviet pay. Soviet staff, it was said, were found with Russian cigarettes in their pockets and Russian-owned vehicles are said to have been used to transport members of extremist opposition parties to this and other demonstrations.

They may be rather fanciful, but there seems little doubt that the martial law regime of Lieutenant-General H. M. Ershad, had something more solid to go on, since next day it called in the Soviet Ambassador, Mr. Valentin Pavlovich Stepanov, to ask him to cut his diplomatic staff by 50 per cent and to close the Soviet cultural centre.

The government is also thought likely to have been angered by what is regarded as an arrogant disregard of Bangladesh's feelings when the badly beat up Afghan emigrant doctor, Dr. Samiul Aqueed, a veterinarian, who chose exile from Kabul after the Soviet intervention, was working at the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research in Dhaka. He was highly outspoken about the evils of the intervention in his country.

On November 24 he was resigning home after spending a dinner when his car was stopped outside his house by three others with diplomatic plates. Two European men got out of each, speaking in what Dr. Samiul said was Russian, and roughly beat him, damaging his teeth and breaking his nose.

Dr. Samiul has since been flown to Addis, but the incident was reported to the police, and in the press.

Bihari refugees given hope of resettlement

From Our Own Correspondent, Dhaka

The failure of the Bihari Muslims, non-Bangladeshi trapped in the former eastern province of Pakistan after Bangladesh's war for independence, looked brighter yesterday after an announcement by Lord Egnals, chairman of the Asia Committee of the British Refugee Council.

Lord Egnals, touring Asia to look for refugee problems, disclosed that a Muslim charity has pledged to raise the \$20m necessary to resettle in Pakistan the estimated 21,000 Bihari still living in camps.

The charity is Rabita al-Islam al-Islami (The World Muslim League), based in Jiddah and financed at least in part by the Saudi Government, which undertakes welfare, humanitarian and religious work.

Russians claim Sakharov is mad

From Richard Owen, Moscow

A Soviet official hinted yesterday that the brilliant physicist and human rights campaigner, Dr. Andrei Sakharov was mentally ill and that his views on nuclear disarmament proved he was deranged.

Mr. Vitaly Ruben, a senior Supreme Soviet official, described Dr. Sakharov as a "sick person". Dr. Sakharov was expelled from Moscow to the closed town of Gorky in 1980 for his human rights activities.

Mr. Ruben claimed Dr. Sakharov had sent a letter to the United States "urging the American administration to make a nuclear strike at the Soviet Union". In doing so he had called for nuclear catastrophe, Mr. Ruben remarked, adding: "A healthy person does not do such things."

Dr. Sakharov, the "father" of the Soviet hydrogen bomb, is well known for his achievements in avoiding nuclear war through the use of his weapons.

Dr. Sakharov, who feared the authorities would arrest him, fled to a psychiatric hospital in a psychiatric hospital in Moscow.

He lives in isolation in Gorky, and is in poor health. He has almost no contact with fellow scientists. Mrs. Sakharov has complained that he is not allowed access to the Academy of Sciences hospital in Moscow.

Mr. Ruben said the Kremlin had banished Dr. Sakharov to Gorky out of "humane considerations" to ensure his "peace of mind". He was writing research papers for publication in Russia and America, and was "constantly in touch with fellow physicists."

Soviet doctors were "taking all necessary measures" to restore Dr. Sakharov's health, and were treating him at home, Mr. Ruben said. The authorities had acted with the necessary tact.

Moscow's dwindling band of dissidents is expected to appear on Pushkin Square tomorrow for the traditional protest marking human rights day. Mr. Ruben said yesterday that Russia observed social, political and economic rights whereas the West did not. There was no unemployment in Russia, and those prosecuted were not dissidents but anti-social criminals.

Mr. Oleg Radzinsky, a founder member of the unofficial peace movement, yesterday wrote to Western correspondents in Moscow from a Siberian labour camp to condemn President Reagan and repudiate his support and help. Mr. Radzinsky said his name was being used for "provocative purposes". Letters from Siberian exiles do not normally reach Western journalists.

Cheap ways to avoid 15 million baby toll

By Tony Samaras

About 15 million children, the equivalent of the entire under-five population of the United States, or of Britain, Italy, Spain and West Germany combined, have died in the past year, although a number of low-cost programmes could cut that death rate by half, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) said yesterday.

Launching its report on *The State of the World's Children 1984*, the agency noted that an equal number of young children in the developing world were left physically or mentally handicapped by disease and malnutrition. The report, which analyses child mortality and life expectancy figures from 130 countries, draws on studies from 20 of the poorest which suggest that "drugs, such as child-wearing caps, indeed be achieved at a relatively low cost and in a relatively short time despite economic recession".

In addition traditional techniques of food supplements, family spacing and female education, UNICEF recommends four other, low-cost rehydration therapy for treating diarrhoeal infections, which kill five million children a year; growth monitoring, to ensure more efficient use of food; and a simple, expanded immunization scheme and the promotion of breast-feeding.

Standard child health care is improving so slowly, UNICEF says, that more than 70 nations will still have infant death rates considerably higher than 50 per 1,000 by the end of this century. And in those 70 nations, three out of five of the world's children are born.

Such indicators as children's height-for-age, parallel rising infant mortality figures even in some areas of the United States and the Soviet Union to suggest that the world population has had a severe impact on the state of the world's children.

The State of the World's Children 1984 is available from Oxford University Press in a variety of editions, or from the UK Committee for UNICEF, 35 UNE.



Coming up roses: Jane Russell in Los Angeles making her first appearance on television since her long absence from Hollywood - during a break in filming 'The Yellow Rose'.

Belgrade accuses Sofia of meddling

From Dossa Trevisan, Belgrade

The one per cent increase in still below the minimum guaranteed by law during Tito's life. It comes at a time of economic difficulties, which led to a large foreign debt, which led to austerity measures and cuts.

Admiral Branko Muzina, the Defence Secretary, has also accused Bulgaria of trying to take advantage of the Yugoslav-Albanian rift.

use of the former premier, Mr. Mehmet Dzhelal, who committed suicide two years ago and was subsequently accused by Mr. Fayer Hoxha of plotting to assassinate him.

The Albanian leader is 75, although his recent birthday was celebrated with great pomp, he did not attend and is believed to be ill.

هكذا من الأصل

CONTRARY TO ANY PREVIOUS ADVICE, THERE ARE ONE OR TWO THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT A WINE.

- 1 Do you know that the Muscadet vineyards are the only ones in Brittany to be classified by the Appellation Contrôlée authorities?
- 2 Are you aware that the grape variety grown in this area is the Melon de Bourgogne, which has been recognised as the Muscadet?
- 3 Do you know that it was the monks in the seventeenth century who first brought vines to this area of France?
- 4 Are you familiar with the three areas of the Loire valley: dry wines in the west (Muscadet) and the east (Sancerre), with the sweeter wines in the middle (Anjou)?
- 5 Are you aware that traditionally Muscadet is the first region to be picked every year?
- 6 Do you realise that Muscadet is not only picked young, it is bottled young and is immediately ready for drinking?
- 7 Do you know Muscadet sur lie means bottled directly from the barrels where it has fermented on the lees?
- 8 Do you know that wines of 'sur lie' nature if raked, will oxidise and flatten?
- 9 Do you ensure that for chilled white wine the glasses are cold?
- 10 Are you aware that it's the natural carbon dioxide in a wine which is responsible for its freshness?
- 11 Do you realise that the different productions of separate communes are almost impossible to find as they are not classified in this area?
- 12 Are you aware that there are three

- distinct wine growing areas: Muscadet, Muscadet des Coteaux de la Loire and Muscadet de Sèvre-et-Maine?
- 13 Do you know it's the latter of these areas that is regarded as being the best?
- 14 Do you realise that altogether there are 22,500 acres of Muscadet grown near the mouth of the River Loire?
- 15 Do you know that Appellation Contrôlée not only guarantees the origin of Muscadet but also ensures that high standards are met?
- 16 Do you realise that the Appellation Contrôlée law sets a minimum alcohol level for all A.C. wines?
- 17 Do you know that Muscadet is one of the few French wines to have a recommended upper limit on its alcoholic strength, so it retains its freshness and fruity flavour?
- 18 When the French call a wine 'gouleyant' are you aware it means a light wine both in terms of taste and strength?
- 19 In the Loire the drier, lighter wines come from the areas with chalky soil, heavier wines from the areas of 'marl'. Did you realise this is because marl stores more heat?
- 20 Do you know that the finer a wine is, the more fragrance it will have?
- 21 Muscadet is the natural accompaniment to shellfish and seafood. Did you realise this is because it's grown close to the Atlantic?
- 22 Muscadet does not need to be decanted. Do you realise this is because it 'throws' little or no sediment?
- 23 The rule is that if Muscadet is to accompany a dish, it is the best wine to assist in the cooking. Are you aware of this?
- 24 Are you also aware that if you add wine during the cooking of a dish, it should always be heated first?
- 25 Do you also know that the finer a white wine the less its subtleties should be masked by cold?
- 26 When cooling a white wine, are you aware that one or two hours at most in a refrigerator is sufficient?
- 27 Do you know the rule that a Muscadet wine should not be served as cold as a Blanc de Blancs?
- 28 Are you aware that twenty minutes in a cooler is the maximum for a white wine?
- 29 Do you realise that good white wines should never be chilled as rapidly as when in a freezer?
- 30 Do you appreciate that there is no need to wrap a Muscadet in a white napkin unless it's being served from an ice bucket?
- 31 Are you aware that iced water is more effective than ice cubes alone when cooling a wine?
- 32 Muscadet being a younger, lighter wine should be drunk before older heavier wines?
- 33 Do you know the rule that at an all white wine meal, one should start with the more subtle wines and then move on to the more aromatic ones?
- 34 When serving Muscadet, or other white wine do you always use glasses with a crystal bowl to show off the colour of the wine?
- 35 Are you aware that both natural sunlight and artificial light are harmful to wine in clear glass bottles?
- 36 Do you know that the ideal temperature for storing Muscadet and all white wines is 7-12 Centigrade?
- 37 Do you always dry wine glasses whilst they are still warm with a lint free cloth, preferably a linen one?
- 38 Do you always store your wine glasses upright so that air can circulate in the bowl and prevent them becoming tainted?
- 39 Do you always inspect the cork to ensure that it does not contain wax?
- 40 Do you like the crisp, dry flavour of Muscadet?
- 41 Do you like the price?

Stowell's of Chelsea WINE BOX

MUSCADET DE SEVRE ET MAINE
APPELLATION CONTRÔLÉE



Vin de la Loire
PRODUIT DE FRANCE
3 Litres e

Acheté dans le département de la Loire-Atlantique
SHIPPED AND BOTTLED BY STOWELL'S OF CHELSEA LIMITED
25 CHICHESTER STREET, LONDON EC1R 3ET

A CRISP DRY MUSCADET FROM SEVRE ET MAINE FOR AROUND £10 OR LESS.

Stowell's of Chelsea WINE BOX

Breath meter test record is admissible

Gaimster v Marlow
Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice MacPherson
[Judgment delivered December 8]

Basingstoke Justices were wrong to treat a "test record" produced by a Lion Intoximeter 3000 on a motorist's breath samples as an inadmissible document to evidence the proportion of alcohol in his breath. Contrary to the justices' opinion, the record was a "statement" within the meaning of section 10(3)(a) of the Road Traffic Act 1972 as substituted by section 25(3) of and Schedule 8 to the Transport Act 1981.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court unanimously so held when allowing a police prosecutor's appeal by case stated from dismissal by the justices of an information charging that Russell John Gary Marlow, aged 26, of Basingstoke, drove a motor car on a road after consuming so much alcohol that the proportion thereof in his breath was 111 microgrammes in 100 millilitres of breath, exceeding the prescribed limit of 35 microgrammes in 100 millilitres, contrary to section 6(1) of the 1972 Act as substituted.

The justices dismissed the information on the ground that there was no case to answer. In the stated case the justices set out as the "test record", a part of a document:

TEST	UG%	TIME
TD	33	01:35 GMT
BLK	0	01:36 GMT
INE	114	01:38 GMT
BLK	0	01:39 GMT
WVO	111	01:39 GMT
BLK	0	01:39 GMT
STD	33	01:40 GMT

The justices asked whether they were right in dismissing the information and in excluding the evidence of the police officer who conducted the test to explain or interpret the meaning of the contents of the document. Their Lordships answered that if he had been shown to be a trained operator of the machine and knew what the meaning of the signs was, there was no reason why he should not give evidence if required - it seldom could be required - to explain the meaning. The case was remitted to the justices to continue the hearing.

An application by the defendant for a certificate that a point of law of general public importance was involved in the decision was adjourned. Their Lordships stated

that leave to appeal to the House of Lords was in any event refused. An order was made for payment of the prosecutor's costs out of central funds.

Section 10(3) provides: "Evidence of the proportion of alcohol in a specimen of breath... produced by a device... for the purpose of... (a) a statement automatically produced by the device... (b) a certificate signed by a constable...".

Mr John Spokes, QC and Mr Guy Boney for the prosecutor; Mr Michael Dineen for the defendant.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the information was heard on September 22, 1983, at Basingstoke. The evidence called before the justices, according to their stated case, was that of Police Sergeant Frank Younghusband who described on oath how on May 11, 1983, at Basingstoke he had conducted a test of the defendant's breath using the Lion Intoximeter 3000, and of a document headed "test record", which was identified by Sgt Younghusband as having been issued by the Intoximeter and signed in two places by himself on May 11, 1983.

At that point the defendant's counsel objected that the "test record" was not a "statement" within section 10(3)(a) and therefore inadmissible as evidence of the proportion of alcohol in the defendant's breath.

His first point was that the only part of the piece of paper issued by the Intoximeter which was admissible was the "test record" which was a part which could be considered to be the "statement".

His Lordship wished to say in general that it was essential in such cases where a document is material as the present one was to be the

subject of a case stated, the original document or a photostatic copy of the whole of it should be appended to the case. Their Lordships had been supplied with the full document.

The rest of the "test record" document not cited by the justices consisted of: "Operator name - Younghusband PS 187.1 certify that in this statement reading one relates to the first specimen of breath provided by the subject named above, and reading two to the second, at the date and time shown herein: F. Younghusband Signature".

Before the part cited by the justices appeared the following words: "Test record Lion Intox. 3000/5920. Basingstoke Police Hampshire Constab. Wed May 11, 1983 Subject name - Marlow Russell John T029-261055 and in the defendant's handwriting: 'Refused to sign'".

That was the document which was or should have been before the justices and the whole of which should have been the subject of their deliberations and decision.

Mr Dineen's principal submission was that it was only the part which the justices had set out and not the second part which could be considered as the "statement". He went on that, if one considered only that part of the document it was not intelligible and therefore not a statement and consequently, he submitted, the justices were correct in their conclusion.

Before one turned to consider the technical aspects of the argument it was necessary to look at the reality because what was being dealt with was the real world not some fanciful world.

The subject of such a case knew that he had been breathalysed at the roadside and presumably knew why. He had been taken to the police station. His car had presumably been left behind or other arrangements made with regard to it.

He knew that he had had two tests in the police station. He knew, if he was *compos mentis*, that it was all to do with the percentage of alcohol in his breath. He had been standing alongside or in front of the machine and had seen there when he delivered his breath samples into it. He had been there watching it operate.

He knew that he had given two breath samples; presumably he had seen the piece of paper come out of the machine. He had been handed a copy to sign - the defendant had refused to sign it. He had the document in his possession.

He was told the result and if, at that stage, he was not capable of reading the document or if possibly he was unable to read he could put it in his pocket and go away and obtain help if necessary or when he recovered his senses could read it himself.

He then looked at the document and if he did that, it seemed to his Lordship that, taken as a whole, the document was plainly intelligible.

It was to be said that the document could be split in two parts and had to be rigidly compartmentalised. The first part was to look at the second half but only at the first part, that part only being the "statement".

His Lordship disagreed. It seemed to him that, as the Act provided the document as a whole contained both a statement and a certificate.

It contained the certificate that the specimen had been provided by the defendant as the Act required and it also contained an explanation of the figures.

The defendant reading the document would read that ONE was the first specimen and TWO the second, at the date and time shown herein: F. Younghusband Signature.

So it seemed to his Lordship perfectly plain that a document purporting to be a statement automatically produced and also a certificate signed by a constable, if it was one document containing an explanation of the meaning.

Mr Dineen's first point about rigid separation failed. His Lordship would, if necessary, go further because it seemed to him that the document was a statement and a certificate. It was a formal written account of the facts providing the subject with the information that he was entitled to have. The subject might not be immediately intelligible but it was not prevent it being a "statement".

A subsidiary point of Mr Dineen was that there was no reference in the statement to "alcohol". One again the reality of the matter was that it was perfectly plain to everyone - even if the words "Lion Intox." meant nothing - the whole object of the exercise was to test the percentage of alcohol.

It was objected that "UG%" which was at the head of the column, was unintelligible. The English "U" was the nearest the machine could get to the Greek "μ" which was the unit of measurement. Even if that was not intelligible the "W" sign alongside was perfectly plain. If he did not know that 35 was the limit he ought to know.

The answer to the first question asked by the justices was that they were not correct in law in treating the "test record" document as inadmissible as evidence of the proportion of alcohol in the defendant's breath in that it was not a "statement" within the meaning of section 10(3)(a) of the 1972 Act.

In answer to their second question, if the police officer had not considered the vital matter which was whether the constable had acted in good faith or not, see *Webber v Carey* (1970) AC 1072; *R v Aspin* (1973) RTR 456.

On the facts as found, unless the contrary was shown, the constable had acted in good faith. Accordingly the justices were not justified in upholding the submission of no case to answer. They should have directed their minds to whether the constable was acting bona fide and accordingly the case should be sent back to them to continue with the hearing.

Driver was tested too soon

Hartsh v Twells
Before Lord Justice Stephen Brown and Mr Justice Taylor
[Judgment delivered December 8]

A defendant had been lawfully arrested by a police constable on the basis of a breath test that indicated that the proportion of alcohol in his blood exceeded the prescribed limit, if the police constable had acted in good faith when operating the breath test device without the device had not been operated in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held when allowing an appeal by way of case stated brought by the prosecutor.

Mr John McGuinness for the prosecutor; Mr Stephen Twiss for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE STEPHEN BROWN said that the defendant was required to provide a specimen of breath in an Alcotest device. The police constable knew that the device should not be operated within 20 minutes of the consumption of alcohol.

The constable said that he had had his last drink 10 minutes earlier but refused to wait 10 minutes before testing and insisted that the constable administer the breath test.

The justices accepted the defendant's submission of no case to answer on the basis that the defendant had been unlawfully arrested. The constable had failed to comply with the operating instructions.

The justices had not been referred to any reported decisions and had not considered the vital matter which was whether the constable had acted in good faith or not, see *Webber v Carey* (1970) AC 1072; *R v Aspin* (1973) RTR 456.

On the facts as found, unless the contrary was shown, the constable had acted in good faith. Accordingly the justices were not justified in upholding the submission of no case to answer.

They should have directed their minds to whether the constable was acting bona fide and accordingly the case should be sent back to them to continue with the hearing.

Where police officers were faced with a refusal to wait 20 minutes before a test, officers should consider proceeding to arrest under section 8(5) of the Road Traffic Act 1972 for failing to provide a specimen of breath.

Mr Justice Taylor agreed. Solicitors: Wootton & Sons, Turner Garrett & Co, Aylesstone.

Breach of safe port clause

C-Trade of Geneva SA v Uni-Ocean Lines Pte Ltd of Singapore
Before Lord Justice Stephenson and Lord Justice Kerr
[Judgment delivered December 2]

When deciding whether charterers of a vessel trapped in a port had breached the safe port provisions of a charterparty, arbitrators had to consider the prospective safety of the port at the time the vessel was ordered there and not the question whether the port had become unsafe when the vessel was there because of some abnormal occurrence.

Further, having found that charterers were in breach by ordering a vessel to an unsafe port or by failing to countermand such an order, arbitrators had to go on to consider whether the trapping of the vessel was foreseeable or too remote to be treated as a consequence flowing from the charterers' breach.

The Court of Appeal so held when dismissing an appeal by the charterers of a vessel, C-Trade of Geneva SA, from a decision of Mr Justice Bingham (1983) 1 Lloyd's Rep 387 who had allowed an appeal by the owners, Uni-Ocean Lines Pte Ltd of Singapore from an interim award by three arbitrators who by a majority decided that the charterers had not breached the safe port provisions of the charterparty.

Mr Stephen Tomlinson for the charterers; Mr Peter Gross for the owners.

LORD JUSTICE KERR said that the disputes arose out of a time charter on the New York Produce Exchange Form between the owners and the charterers. It concerned the vessel's actual damage to the vessel through the Shatt al Arab just before the outbreak of hostilities between Iran and Iraq in September, 1980.

The arbitrators concluded that the charterers had breached the safe port provisions of the charterparty related in part to questions of causation or remoteness of damage. Such issues involved mixed questions of fact and law in relation to which the courts would only rarely differ from the conclusions of an arbitral tribunal. The principles in *Edwards v Balfour* (1956) AC 14 were to be applied to arbitral awards in such cases.

On July 21, 1980 the vessel was ordered to load cement and completed loading there on July 31. By a bill of lading dated August 1, 1980 she was ordered to Basrah as the port of discharge.

On August 25 she arrived at the satisfaction of every member of the jury, the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Eveleigh, Lord Justice Robert Goff and Mr Justice Hollings) held on December 2.

LORD JUSTICE EVELEIGH, giving the reserved judgment of the court, allowing an appeal against conviction, said that each ingredient of the offence charged had to be proved to the satisfaction of each

Shatt anchorage. Due to congestion at Basrah, the vessel waited at the Shatt anchorage until September 20 when she proceeded to Basrah. She did not proceed to Basrah simply on the basis of that destination being named in the bills of lading but pursuant to an express order given by the charterers.

The arbitrators found that the relations between Iran and Iraq deteriorated after September 17. There were further border clashes between September 17 and 19 and on September 20 it was clear that the Shatt was the "potential *casus belli*".

It was on that day that the charterers ordered the vessel to leave the anchorage and proceed to Basrah. The arbitrators concluded that Basrah was an unsafe port when the charterers ordered the vessel to proceed there on September 20.

The vessel discharged her cargo until October 23. Meanwhile heavy fighting on land and sea proceeded between September 21, including the hostilities in the Shatt. Navigation in the Shatt ceased during the afternoon of September 22 and had not resumed by September 23.

At the time of the award the law laid emphasis not upon the prospective safety or unsafety of the port at the time of the order but upon the question whether or not the port had become unsafe at any time when the vessel was there and if so whether that had been due to some abnormal occurrence or not.

The doctrine was reversed by the House of Lords in *Kodros Shipping Corporation of Monrovia v Empresa Cubana de Fletes (No 2) (The Evia)* (1983) AC 756 and described by Lord Diplock as a "heresy". Lord Roskill stated that a secondary obligation was imposed on charterers if a port became unsafe after a proper order had been given to go to a port when it was still prospectively safe.

That secondary obligation was that the prior order must then be countermanded or, if the vessel was already at the port in question that she must then be ordered to leave it that was still possible to avoid the effect of the unsafety.

It was apparent that the arbitrators proceeded on an erroneous basis in law. Having found that Basrah was already an unsafe port when the charterers ordered the vessel to proceed there on September 20, they nevertheless considered that the charterers were not in breach of the charterparty, whereas the contrary was now clearly established by *The Evia*.

Further, even if there had then been no breach of the charterparty, arbitrators, but merely a failure to

countermand the previous order given when the vessel left Constantza, the charterers would still have been in breach of the secondary obligation stated by Lord Roskill.

The award was *ex facie* erroneous in point of law and therefore fell within the category of cases in which the court had to intervene referred to in *Edwards v Balfour*.

On the basis of *The Evia* the correct approach was different from the consideration of abnormal occurrence. Given the fact that the charterers were in breach in ordering the vessel to Basrah, or in failing to countermand the previous order when Basrah became an unsafe port on September 20, the question was: Was there then a foreseeable risk that the vessel might become trapped, on the trapping of the vessel too remote to be treated as a consequence flowing from the charterers' breach? There could be only one answer.

The award stated that the trapping of the *Lucille* in the Shatt was effectively caused by the warlike actions between the Iranians and Iraqis and that navigation of the river ceased, in the general sense, on the ground of the war. As Mr Justice Bingham said there was no intervening event which led to the closing of the Shatt on September 22 other than a mere worsening of the situation.

It was no doubt unforeseen that the Shatt would remain closed for many months, and by now for over three years, so that the vessels in it became constructive total losses. But that merely went to the extent and gravity of what was foreseeable, not to the foreseeability of the risk itself, and it was settled law that in such cases the actual damage to the vessel too remote to remain a legal consequence of the charterers' breach. Accordingly, the appeal would be dismissed.

Lord Justice Stephenson agreed. Solicitors: Lloyd Deaby Neal, Lovell White & King.

No right of set-off for delay in transit

R H & D International v IAS Animal Air Services Ltd
The rule in *Artes Tanker Corporation v Total Transport Ltd* (1977) 1 WLR 85, that a claim in respect of cargo could not be asserted by way of deduction from freight, applied to contracts subject to the Schedule to the Carriage of Goods by Road Act 1965 notwithstanding the provisions of articles 32.4 and 36 of that Schedule, and accordingly there existed no right of set-off against a claim for freight due for carriage of goods by road under the Schedule even where the cross-claim related to delay as opposed to damage or loss.

Mr Justice Neill so held, giving judgment in open court in the Queen's Bench Division on December 6, following proceedings in chambers under Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, and awarding the plaintiffs £2,646 for freight owed to them by the defendants.

Stepdaughter is awarded £19,000 from estate

Leach v Linderman and Others

In order for a person to satisfy section 1(1)(d) of the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Act 1975 as having been a person who (not being a child of the deceased) had been treated by the deceased as a child of the family in relation to a marriage to which the deceased had at any time been a party, it was not necessary for the treatment to have occurred during the course of the marriage. Mr Michael Wheeler, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Chancery

Division, held on December 8. HIS LORDSHIP said the treatment could include events which preceded or followed the marriage if, on the facts of the particular case, the treatment could fairly be said to have been, in a broad sense, "in relation to" the marriage and awarded an immediate payment of £19,000 to an able-bodied woman of 55, who had made her own way in life since she was 21, and who was the stepdaughter of the testator who deceased, out of an estate of £45,000.

He was told the result and if, at that stage, he was not capable of reading the document or if possibly he was unable to read he could put it in his pocket and go away and obtain help if necessary or when he recovered his senses could read it himself.

He then looked at the document and if he did that, it seemed to his Lordship that, taken as a whole, the document was plainly intelligible.

Although the justices had stated that looking at the part at which they looked it was not intelligible without explanation, his Lordship begged leave to question that, although the court was bound by the finding of fact on that issue.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS and Mr Justice MacPherson agreed. Solicitors: Mr R. J. Gwilliam, Winchester, Emersons, Basingstoke.

Proving fraudulent inducement

Regina v Brown (Kevin)

The making of a false statement, knowingly, was an essential ingredient of the offence of fraudulently inducing the investment of money, contrary to section 13(1)(a) of the Prevention of Fraud Investment Act 1967. Thus, where several statements were specified as constituting an offence, only one had to be proved in order to secure a conviction, but it had to be proved

to the satisfaction of every member of the jury, the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Eveleigh, Lord Justice Robert Goff and Mr Justice Hollings) held on December 2.

LORD JUSTICE EVELEIGH, giving the reserved judgment of the court, allowing an appeal against conviction, said that each ingredient of the offence charged had to be proved to the satisfaction of each

and every one of the jury, subject to the majority direction.

However, where a number of matters were specified in the charge as together constituting one ingredient of the offence, and any one of them was capable of so doing, it was enough to establish that ingredient that any one of those matters was proved, but it had to be proved to the satisfaction of the whole (or a majority) of the jury.

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MAHARISHI TECHNOLOGY OF THE UNIFIED FIELD

SOLVING PROBLEMS OF GOVERNMENTS
CREATING IDEAL CIVILIZATION ON EARTH
A TASTE OF UTOPIA—DEC. 17—JAN. 6, 1984

The World Government of the Age of Enlightenment offered last month to solve the problems of all governments. In the same wave of inspiration, Maharishi International University has now planned to give a sample taste of utopia to all mankind.

Seven thousand experts in the Maharishi Technology of the Unified Field will assemble at MIU from December 17 to January 6 to collectively create a strong influence of coherence and positivity in the whole world.

This unique demonstration of global coherence, originating from one place and reaching all parts of the world, will inspire governments to follow this example in their own countries and create a group of experts in the Maharishi Technology of the Unified Field so that negative trends do not arise in the country, law and order are spontaneously maintained, and administration becomes simple, effective, free from problems, and free from the elements of fear and punishment. Real freedom will be enjoyed by the people and by the government.

power, and unlimited creativity are available in daily life.

UTOPIA
The Maharishi Technology of the Unified Field has placed mankind on the doorstep of utopia—the unified field based civilization. Trends and tendencies in society will be maintained in the evolutionary direction, bringing fulfillment to all areas of governmental responsibility, including administration, education, defence, health, rehabilitation, economics, and agriculture.

Government PROBLEM-FREE ADMINISTRATION
The Maharishi Technology of the Unified Field applied to administration offers to every government that supreme efficiency with which nature governs the universe, without altering the present system of government in any way.

This beautiful approach of bringing national law into alliance with natural law strengthens the government and improves the destiny of the nation in such a balanced and natural way that the creation of an ideal society can be a reality for any sovereign nation within as short a time as is desired.

In his Absolute Theory of Government, Maharishi explains that every government, irrespective of its system, is an innocent mirror of its nation. The strength and success of the government depends upon the strength and integrity of national consciousness. Since the government draws its inspiration and vitality from the collective consciousness of the people, it is essential that the government does whatever it can to maintain the highest quality of national consciousness.

natural focus on academic study, from primary level to Ph.D. This unified field based approach, which raises life to be lived in full accord with natural law, can be easily introduced to fulfil the goals of any system of education without the need to revise the existing curriculum. Educators from all countries are invited for training in this ideal system of education.

Defence VICTORY BEFORE WAR
Maharishi's contribution in the field of defence is invariability for every nation. The Maharishi Technology of the Unified Field offers absolute defence in that it eliminates the very need for defending by preventing the birth of an enemy. This approach promotes life in accordance with natural law, maintains evolutionary trends within the country, and radiates life-supporting influences in all directions, automatically preventing the birth of an enemy.

The need for defence has its basis in fear, which is caused by stress. Since education does not train people to think and act spontaneously in accordance with the full potential of natural law, the whole population is violating the laws of nature, causing stress, fear, and weakness, and creating the need for defence.

Destructive means of defence can at best leave the enemy in a state of fear, which can serve only to postpone confrontation. History records that destructive means of defence have always proven suicidal for any nation. Fortunately, those days are now coming to an end.

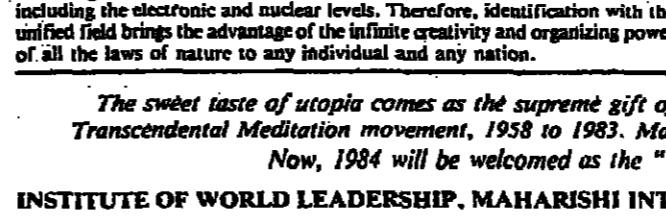
The predominant sense of restraint observed in the family of nations today with regard to the use of nuclear arms demonstrates the growth of the more fortunate tender quality of life—the desire of the leaders of the world to ensure security without destroying life. This noble search of world leadership finds its fulfillment in the Maharishi Technology of the Unified Field, which offers absolute defence by bringing nourishment to life.

Health REVERSAL OF AGEING
Maharishi's unified field based approach to health simultaneously promotes the health of the individual and the collective health of the nation by bringing life into accordance with the full potential of natural law.

This approach produces perfect integration of mind, body, and behaviour and eliminates imbalance, leaving no chance for weakness to remain on any level of life—individual, national, or international.

Immortality, being a quality of the unified field, is enlivened on every level of life through this unified field based approach to health. This brings perfect health and longevity to the individual and the nation. Perfect health is marked by the ability to use the full creative potential of life in the state of fulfillment.

Discovery of the Unified Field
Unification of the Four Fundamental Forces of Nature



As the figure shows, the unified field is basic to all other levels of natural law, including the electronic and nuclear levels. Therefore, identification with the unified field brings the advantage of the infinite creativity and organizing power of all the laws of nature to any individual and any nation.

Extensive scientific research indicates improvements in all areas of health, including reversal of the ageing process, through the Maharishi Technology of the Unified Field (Ref.: Scientific research papers in four volumes, 2800 pages).

Rehabilitation RESTORING BALANCE
The Maharishi Unified Field Based Integrated System of Rehabilitation eliminates stress and restores balance in the individual and his environment. It eliminates negativity in life, promotes evolutionary tendencies, and offers the perfect means of rehabilitation by naturally raising life to be lived in accordance with all the laws of nature.

Agriculture SELF-SUFFICIENCY
Maharishi's unified field based approach to agriculture creates perfect balance in nature. All the laws of nature rise to support the soil, the seed, the weather, and the farmer. Seasons come on time. Crops are abundant. National self-sufficiency is the harvest of unified field based agriculture.

UNIFIED FIELD BASED LEADERSHIP TRAINING
Beginning on January 12, 1984, unified field based leadership training courses will be offered in Washington, D.C. Weekend and week-long conferences will be available for the top level of leadership in all major areas of society. Other courses of varying duration will be held for administrators and future leaders.

Economics FULFILLING PROSPERITY
The contribution of the Maharishi Unified Field Based Integrated

Qualities of the Unified Field
Since the unified field is a field of all possibilities, the qualities of the unified field are innumerable. A few of its characteristic qualities are described here in the light of the supergravity theory of quantum physics in order to give a glimpse of the benefits that the technology of the unified field can bring to individual and collective life.

1. Perfect Balance—supersymmetry; balance of boson and fermi fields.
2. Invariability—though the physical particle states appear broken, the Lagrangian of the unified field remains eternally supersymmetric; the laws governing the unified field are invariable. 3. Self-referral—the non-Abelian property of self-interaction. 4. Self-sufficiency—a unified gauge field, containing the whole of physics, interacts with itself alone. 5. Infinite Creativity—the fountainhead of natural law; from this unified source, sequential dynamical symmetry breaking gives rise to all the particles and forces of nature. 6. Infinite Dynamism—the quantum fluctuations at the Planck scale express infinite dynamism. 7. Infinite Organizing Power—the Hamiltonian of the unified field governs the time evolution of the entire universe. 8. All Possibilities—all the fundamental quantum fields are fully enlivened as dynamical degrees of freedom at the Planck scale of superunification. 9. Immortality—time translational invariance of the Lagrangian density of the unified field. 10. Nourishing—the eternal continuum of self-interaction of the unified field sustains the time evolution of the universe.

All beautiful, evolutionary qualities spontaneously blossom in individual and collective life as the mind gains increasing familiarity with the unified field. This has been amply verified by extensive scientific research in the areas of physiology, psychology, sociology, and ecology and demonstrated in the lives of millions of people and in the improving quality of national life on all continents during the past 25 years. These achievements are at the basis of our globe initiative to give a sweet taste of utopia to all mankind and to invite our family of nations to collectively create unified field based ideal civilization in our generation.

The sweet taste of utopia comes as the supreme gift of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Maharishi's worldwide Transcendental Meditation movement, 1958 to 1983. Maharishi declared 1983 to be the "Year of the Unified Field." Now, 1984 will be welcomed as the "Year of Unified Field Based Civilization."

INSTITUTE OF WORLD LEADERSHIP, MAHARISHI INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY, FAIRFIELD, IOWA 52556, USA

مكتبة من الأصول

THE ARTS

Theatre

Scream of hatred

Sufficient Carbohydrate

Announced as "Dennis Potter's first original stage play," this is an angry piece about five tourists being very rude to each other on a Greek island.

Two directors of the company are on holiday with their wives. Jack's family founded the store, then sold out to the Americans who now want to get rid of him as a lazy, obstructive, alcoholic.

Hostilities get under way in the early morning sunshine, with Jack springing to the defence of hand-picked mushrooms and Eddie no less vigorously putting the case for bio-technology.

What the author thinks is quite clear: the English used to sell food; now the Americans are selling junk. As Jack is sitting tight on his contract and is clearly not going to undergo a Pauline conversion to fast food, matters are soon deadlocked.

Mr Potter turns his attention to the surrounding company, including young Clayton, (Rupert Graves), the son of Eddie's first marriage, who now observes his father clandestinely entwined with his co-director's wife.

This line of business also swiftly comes to a head, with Eddie and Elizabeth defiantly retreating to bed, leaving Jack to give the abandoned Lucy a black eye while murmuring profuse English apologies.

The second act finds Eddie and Elizabeth sunning themselves on the terrace after their night of pleasure and asking themselves "What's going to happen now?", a question the author may well have been asking himself.

No very conclusive answer arrives. Jack is discovered, in bad shape, after a night on the beach. Clayton keeps on arriving at embarrassing moments, and also goes off to nurse his wounded feelings in solitude.

Search parties come and go. Jack tries to punch Eddie's nose and the piece ends with Jack's surprise resignation from the firm and the east straining their eyes for a distant freighter he claims to see on the horizon.

As Jack is played by Dinsdale Landen and Eddie by Nicky Henson you will have a good idea of how their relationship works. It is a duel between irony and brute force, with the crumbling Mr Landen running rings of scathing articulate mockery around his monosyllabically written adversary.

This way of turning the tables on life's actual victors is an ancient theatre game, and the only surprise here is that a writer of Mr Potter's quality should present such a crass portrait of the Ugly American and load him with dialogue consisting almost exclusively of clichés.

Mr Henson obliges by playing with the bogus sincerity of a cigarette voice-over, inviting demolition with every line. However, there is more to the piece than that. Besides its contrast between a sagging Britain and a thrusting

Anthony Masters

Opera

Carmen

Dominion Theatre

The Welsh National Opera's tarty, beleaguered carnival of a Carmen was much appreciated when it opened in Cardiff in May, but it seems to have run out of steam on the way to

London. Now Lucian Pintilie's production is not sharp enough to be a send-up, not important enough to be a tragedy and certainly not vivid enough to be any kind of a theatrical entertainment.

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Harking back, falling down

Cinema

Trading Places (15)

Empire 2

Liquid Sky (18)

ICA Cinema, Classic Chelsea

Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars (PG)

Lumière

Biddy (U)

Minema

House of Evil (18)

Classic Oxford Street.

The most terrifying cinematic moment of 1983 occurred last weekend at the Dominion Theatre, London, when Victor Sjostrom's silent classic The Wind (1928) approached its delicious climax.

Last week's presentation of The Wind, and Griffith's fragrant Broken Blossoms, not only dwarfed most of the other offerings at the London Film Festival, they made pygmies of the current commercial block.

The material harks back to the vintage comedies of Capra, Preston Sturges and Gregory La Cava, where American society was purposefully laid out, dissected and lampooned.

There are plenty of crisper passages, notably a set-piece for all the male dancers and the other woman for Brind and the other woman soloist, Fiona Chadwick.

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thriller 48 HKS. Two mischievous moguls, played with alacrity by veterans Ralph Bellamy and Don Ameche, choose to test the benefits of breeding by making the couple swap places.

John Landis decorates this schematic tale with modest visual eloquence. His cameras catch the forlorn absurdity of a rain-swept Aykroyd staring through the window at his former colleagues; crisp editing isolates Murphy's sideways look as Bellamy pedantically explains the use of pork bellies in bacon.

Timothy Harris and Herschel Weingrod's script toys with its situations rather than exploits them, and the verbal wit of their Hollywood models is nowhere approached. Truly successful comedy needs discipline.

"There's something strange going on here - I'm going to leave," mutters one of the bystanders in the outlandish Liquid Sky, made in New York by excited Russian émigrés.

In its time, the Russian experimental tradition has drawn open sustenance from American popular culture, jazz and silent screen slapstick were potent influences during the 1920s.

The American horror piece House of Evil, written and directed by Mark Roman, is ruined in turn by stunted imagination. Vicious mystery supposedly lurks in a college campus, but when matchstick characters talk about "the old cemetery" and "the old garage" we know precisely what is before us: old rubbish.

Whether public schools enrich the national psyche or impoverish it is one of those arguments beloved of the British. William Boyd obviously belongs to the latter school of thought.

So the story, despite the expertise of director Jack Gold, did not translate well to film. As the victim, Anton Lesser, with the aid of a moustache and beard, managed to hop back and forth over that age gap better than most and his performance, in the circumstances, was excellent.

It is not only boys at public schools who have problems, however. For it is wicked world. The Seiffers' Tale, also on Channel 4, was the fifth in director-producer Jeff Perks' look at young East Enders.

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The production team's alien status is ingeniously built into the plot. There is an alien visitor on the heroine's rooftop, embedding glass arrows in the heads of anyone experiencing orgasm; there is a German scientist glued to a telescope, sharpening his accent on lines like "The alien craft is about the size of a dinner plate".

Tuskerman's band were joined in the venture by the American punk dignitary Anne Carls; she co-wrote the script and plays two parts (one of them male) with haunting zombic aplomb.

D. A. Pennebaker's David Bowie film Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars documents western taste from a more traditional angle: Bowie's last concert appearance as his character "Ziggy Stardust" is filmed with all the sophistication that a darkened HammerSmith Odeon allows.

The audience, perversely, comes across more clearly, through flashing shots of ecstatic faces and waving arms; they seem like denizens of the inferno.

Biddy is a British aberration, devised and directed by Christine Edzard at the Rotherhithe studios of Sands Films. The tale of a Victorian nursemaid powdering into old age utilizes Edzard's flair for period accoutrements and whimsy (also was production designer and co-writer of Taste of Beatrix Potter); but hideously synchronized dialogue and an absence of dramatic thrust prove crippling handicaps.

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Eddie Murphy begs from Don Ameche in Trading Places

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Dance



Consort Lessons, choreographed by David Bintley

Ballet out of music

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Rock

T-Bone Burnett

Dingwalls

When a man who could have understudied for the young Robert Mitchum in Thunder Road - hooded peepers, unruly brown quiff, oddly pursed mouth - draws through a rock 'n' roll recitation of "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend", plays the only decent version of "Not Fade Away" heard since the Rolling Stones took away its individuality and turned it into a Bo Diddley song, recreates the spirit of the late Richie Valens in a whooping "La Bamba" and then gets the Dingwalls audience to join in with "You Are My Sunshine", only the terminally jaded could maintain indifference.

T-Bone Burnett is a Texan singer and writer who toured with Bob Dylan's Rolling Thunder Revue in 1976, subsequently joined an obscure outfit called the Alpha Band, and has an appealing new album, Proof Through the Night, just released, featuring discreet guest appearances by Ry Cooder, Richard Thompson and Pete Townshend.

John Cale and Alex Chilton as a grown-up rocker with an off-centre vision; whether he widens his following beyond the present cut is up to a public not always noted for its discriminatory powers.

Richard Williams

NEXT WEEK AT THE NATIONAL THEATRE

12 December to 17 December
Olivier: Mon, Tues 7.15
Christopher Hampton's TALES FROM HOLLYWOOD
"Has about the best jokes in London" (Observer)

Olivier: Wed, Fri 7.15, Thurs, Sat 2.30 & 7.15
JEAN SEBERG
the musical drama by Marvin Hamlisch, Christopher YOUNG, and Julian Barry

Olivier: Thurs, Fri 7.30, Sat 2.30 & 7.30
Sophocles' ANTIGONE
Workshop production all seats £3

Cottesloe: Mon, Tues, Wed 7.30
The Market Theatre Company, Johannesburg, in Athol Fugard's MASTER HAROLD... AND THE BOYS
"A triumph" (New York Times)

BOX OFFICE 01-925 2323 Credit Cards 01-925 8633
OLIVIER & LYTTLETON STANDBY from 10am on day - any unsold seats £5.00 (24 hrs) midweek mats.
COTTESLOE STUDENTS STANDBY from 45 mins before start - any unsold seats £2.00
CAR PARK FOOD DRINK LIVE FOLK MUSIC

Kenya: the rocky road from Uhuru

Kenya became independent 20 years ago on Monday. **Xan Smiley** finds it to be a land still struggling towards nationhood, and talks to **Daniel arap Moi** in his first interview since he succeeded **Jomo Kenyatta**

The first rule of writing about Africa is that comparisons are everything. It is no good coming from Europe and pontificating on one African country without knowing others. Every country in the African continent can be convincingly portrayed in a bleak light. Through no fault of the Africans (who often do make matters worse), Africa is ill-starred. Practically every country is an artificial patchwork creation. Boundaries - crazy straight lines and rectangles - were drawn with brutal crudity by colonial mapmakers. Ancient traditions were swept aside, hybrid societies hatched overnight, ashamed of the old ways but given only a veneer of the new.

Peoples - tribes - often far more different from each other than, say, Spaniards and Poles, were hurled together and told to become one. There are almost no nation-states in Africa. They have been told to create nationhood out of a host of diversity. Kenya is no exception. It is not a nation. It is trying to become one. It is remarkable that it has held together as well as it has.

So the first rule is to look at the neighbours. Kenya has recently gathered an army of detractors, mostly from the left. Many of their criticisms contain more than a germ of truth: that there is too much corruption, that the grab-grab, freewheeling, often chaotic capitalism has lowered morality, that some of the rich are obscenely rich while the poor are too easily trampled. Yet by the standard of every neighbour, Kenya is an island of tolerance, prosperity and progress for most of its people.

Look clockwise: Uganda, groping back to economic sanity under the still unloved minority leader Milton Obote, will take a generation to recover a modicum of civil decency; southern Sudan, its rich potential unfulfilled, is drifting back toward civil war; blood-stained Ethiopia is beset by at least four regional rebellions and beholden to the Soviet Union; Somalia's leadership is near-bankrupt and beleaguered. Only Tanzania, under the once-plausible Nyerere, for so long the darling of the progressive developmentalists, can stake a claim to equality with Kenya.

It is a false claim. Nyerere's much mentioned barb that Kenya is a "man-eat-man" society is still blunted by the Kenyan retort that in Tanzania "man eats nothing". It is true that Tanzania is more egalitarian than Kenya. There is no great individual wealth. In both countries there remain millions living on subsistence. But in Tanzania the mediocrity is deeper, the poverty is more uniform.

Impressive figures are ritually trotted out - unverifiable and increasingly contested - to show advances in literacy, water supply and health care. Yet with less fanfare Kenya has done better on all levels, although contrary to standard wisdom, Kenya's agricultural potential is less than Tanzania's.



Daniel arap Moi: suspicious of left-wing intellectuals

Kenya took longer to make primary schooling free and most still pay for secondary school. But the numbers of secondary students in Kenya (up from 31,000 at independence to 438,000 today) far surpass those in Tanzania.

A government with a sense of determination

Kenyan medical treatment, though often maladministered, easily outpoints Tanzania where drugs, anaesthetics, even gauze and soap, are unobtainable in many hospitals. Agricultural development overall, Kenya is far ahead, the Tanzanian dream of *ujamaa* (collectivization of villages) having turned sour years ago.

Tanzanian sneers that the former white highlands of Kenya have simply passed to a new black elite are rubbish. There is indeed a mini-class of rich black Kenyans, there remains a landless minority who feel cheated by the fruits of independence plucked by others.

But most of the white settlers' farms were transferred to cooperative societies, often badly administered. Kenya's most justifiable boast is the growth of intensively farmed peasant smallholdings. Maladministration of bureaucracy and corruption is threatening the wellbeing of the small coffee farmer, the Kenyan cotton and py-

Moi faces a very awkward few years but he seems to have acquired a new lease of life.

Kenyan politics have always been rough, dirty, but admirably lively. Tribal groupings are bigger and more competitive than in Tanzania.

The man at the top of Kenya needs to be tough. Kenyatta was the archetypal African nationalist, his strength based on one tribe (the Kikuyu) but his patronage spread cleverly across a tribal board where alliances are ever shifting.

He allowed a measure of opposition - so long as the centre was not threatened. Then he was ruthless. Two important politicians - Tom Mboya and J. M. Karuki - were assassinated without satisfactory explanation: at least one other lesser figure was killed.

Kenyatta kept about 15 of his severest critics in jail. His successor, Mr Moi, let them out, but soon put another few back in again. Within the one-party system, Kenya is a fairly loosely-controlled, limited democracy. People can argue - up to a point. Every five years MPs face the popular electoral music. Only a handful of candidates are barred from standings. Despite Mr Moi's suspicion of left-wing intellectuals, Kenya remains one of Africa's most open societies.

Life across the colour line is more relaxed

Multi-racial? In a way, yes. There is more tolerance - pragmatic, amused, sometimes mutually contemptuous - than real social mixing or friendship. The cultures of both black and white still sit far apart, unyielding.

But compared with 30 years ago, when Kenya was as race-based as Ian Smith's Rhodesia, life across the colour-line is relaxed and natural.

Blacks now feel less need to assert themselves, whites have less cause to "bend over backwards". White numbers are down from 56,000 at independence to 39,000 today, Indians from 177,000 to 77,000. Most of the present whites are expatriates. Only 4,000 are Kenyan citizens.

The more profound change is the rise of a black middle class more fastidious as consumers, as professionals, and as voters. So far the politics of tribe and patronage prevail. But for the professional in his mid-thirties the political old guard no longer seems adequate. Its corruption is disliked not because it is immoral (few Kenyans really believe that) but because it increases inefficiency and impedes meritocracy.

The extended family and the trickle-down of wealth from the "big man" to the distant family followers have hitherto softened the inequalities of wealth.

But as the middle-class nuclear family takes over and the urban and middle classes slowly become detribalised, the old politics will lose their grip. But not yet. The old-time techniques of Jomo Kenyatta and the less flamboyant, sober Mr Moi have held Kenya together effectively.

The pace of change is perplexing. It is hard to govern so vivacious and ranshackle a country, so diverse in peoples, both firmly and liberally as education expands. The battle between laissez-faire growth and inequality, between order and liberty, will sharpen. Kenya has been fortunate in its past. The future could be fruitful; it will never be calm.

Following the great man's footsteps

Daniel arap Moi lacks the subtlety of a Mandela, the rhetorical flair of a Kamba, the philosophical thoughtfulness of a Nyerere. He is a solid-village primary schoolteacher who became a local worthy in the 1950s, moved into the provincial limelight by dint of hard work and schoolmasterly virtue, led the colonial-blessed and mainly non-Kikuyu opposition to Jomo Kenyatta before independence 20 years ago, but was absorbed into the leadership of the ruling and single party as part of the post-Uhuru consensus in 1946. Three years later he became vice-president, when the founding father died in 1978, the constitutional machinery projected Mr Moi into the top spot.

He is modest: "It was difficult to fit into the shoes of a great man like Jomo Kenyatta," he says. Some, especially the dominant Kikuyu, thought he would be a stop-gap. He has grasped power tightly.

His stolidness and lack of intellectual sophistication does not go down well with the university students and intellectuals - but they are not Kenya. The growing professional classes sometimes fear that Mr Moi too often speaks impulsively, from the hip, on issues that require caution and planning.

Purists, often Europeans who do not appreciate that politics in Kenya, as throughout Africa, are based primarily on patronage and on the play of ethnic checks and balances, complain that Mr Moi, with his immense business interests, is soft on corruption among the political and business elite (often one and the same). "I've managed to reduce corrupt practices... they exist in any society. I'm proud of what we've done," he insists. The scale may be less spectacular than at the end of the Kenyatta era, but most Kenyans reckon it is no less extensive. Even allowing for traditional indulgence, towards privilege at higher levels, corruption, has reached dangerous proportions.

Much more to the point: the masses undoubtedly like him. He has the common touch and seems ill at ease with the political theory of right as much as left. "My ideology," he says simply, "is stomach." When I suggested that the west was better at stomach, the Russians better at guns, he hooted with laughter. Kenyans do not like to admit that their official "non-alignment" is heavily pro-western.

He works exceptionally hard, travels ceaselessly, is genuinely committed to improving leaders, he is also courageously outspoken in favour of family planning - a very sensitive cultural issue. He has even suggested that "the government might have to step in... the message is getting through." Not fast enough, probably, to remove Kenya from its place as "fastest breeder in the world. With an annual population rise of 4 per cent.

Over the past 20 years, he believes Kenya's greatest achievements are "the dismantling of a racially based society", where hospitals, schools, clubs and land were segregated, "the orderly transfer of wealth and land to Africans", and the forging of unity based on "political consolidation".

meaning an undoctinaire, fairly tolerant one-party state, with the proviso that "we have always held general elections at regular intervals". Three months ago, a third of MPs were peacefully voted out.

The growth of peasant prosperity is probably Kenya's greatest achievement, one that few African countries can match. Mr Moi conceded that coffee cooperatives are riddled with mismanagement and needed a clean-up, but he stated with pride that "70 per cent of our coffee and 40 per cent of our tea (together with tourism the country's chief earners) are produced by smallholders."

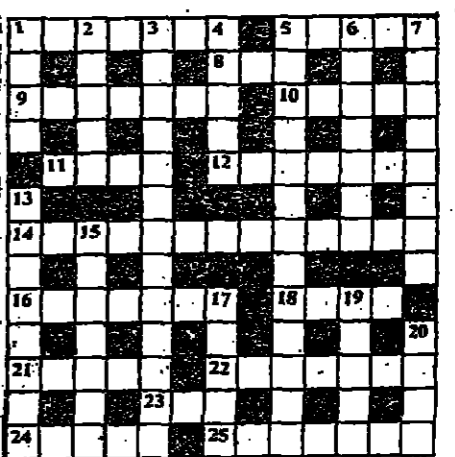
He is edgy at suggestions that Kenya has become more repressive. "For me it is far more important to improve the lot of the majority, he says.

"I can't understand our friends in the West who support these small minorities, who even cause loss of life" - a reference to the bloody coup attempt of August 1982 that did such harm to Kenya's reputation abroad.

"People should not compare us with the US and Britain. We started to put democracy here 20 years ago. We have a different background, a different history, with varying degrees of understanding of these things. If they want us to look like them, they will destroy us."

Would he step down voluntarily one day? He let out one of his periodic bellows of laughter which do much to soften the sometimes rather wooden, uncertain delivery. "You are asking me too early... power stems from the people. But I wouldn't like to stick like a tick just for the sake of it."

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 219)



- ACROSS: 1 Perimeter (7); 5 Rubs lightly (5); 8 NZ honey-eating bird (3); 9 Tawny (7); 10 Nigerian river (5); 11 Apprehension (4); 12 Mexican American (7); 14 Batically (13); 16 Love ornament (7); 18 Whirlpool (4); 21 Indian loincloth (5); 22 Thrill (7); 23 Donkey (3); 24 Hazards (3); 25 Level (7).
- DOWN: 1 Charitable donations (4); 2 Moon crack (5); 3 Household head (13); 4 Resigned (5); 5 Christopher Robin's bear (6,3,4); 6 Plaited hair bunch (7); 7 Quartz gemstone (8); 13 Law breaker (8); 15 Highly sprung (7); 17 Gander's mates (3); 19 Comical (3); 20 Rhone capital (4).

SOLUTION TO No 218
ACROSS: 1 Ruffia 5 Meedle 8 Boo 9 Remiss 10 Trough 11 Hash 12 Abeyance 14 Perfunctorily 17 Bulletin 19 Vast 21 Midrib 23 Assert 24 Bar 25 Betty 26 Duccna
DOWN: 2 Arcus 3 Frightful 4 Abstain 5 Motto 6 DSO 7 Logical 13 Arrivee 15 Erdite 16 Tankard 18 Tabby 20 Siren 23 Ref

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moreover... Miles Kingston

Cosmic News in Brief

President Grig of Glut, the richest galaxy in the Universe, announced yesterday (Upper Quadrant Time) that the peace-keeping force he has sent to Sapunki would be reinforced by another three million troops. This was because the previous three million peace-keeping troops have been wiped out by a terrorist holocaust. So, come to that, has Sapunki.

"Sapunki, at this moment in time, has ceased to exist", said President Grig. "Our vigilance therefore has become all the more urgent. It is our sacred mission to keep peace in the black hole that used to be Sapunki. Thank you."

Comrade Prop, leader of the People's Galaxy of Smelt, has denounced Grig's peace-keeping force as a new provocation. He said he regarded the three million troops as enemies. To back up his word, he announced he would destroy them. To make things even clearer, he would destroy them this very moment. He pressed a black button on his video-deck. He then allowed himself the first smile of the evening.

The three million new peace troops in the Sapunki hole have been destroyed.

President Grig of Glut said that while he regretted the disappearance of his three million peace troops, he was glad that all their details were on videotape and that he could reconstruct them at a moment's notice. He then did so, and personally welcomed them back.

Today (Upper Quadrant Time) is the 4,000th anniversary of the assassination of Quingo Blueblatt, ex-President of the galaxy of Glut. Many distinguished videopeople were present at the memorial 3-D rerun of the killing, including Quingo Blueblatt himself, who is reconstructed every year for the event. "I am glad to be here for the celebration of my death," he said, "especially as I am none the worse for my..."

At this point he was assassinated again.

During the semi-finals of the Unovision song contest, the outlying world of Ring-a-boom-boom was destroyed by excess reverbs. Despite apologies by the organizers, survivors of the holocaust seem undismayed. "It's all part of the fun," they said. Favourite for the final is three-headed singer Squish from Vallium, with his ex-her song "I Love You, I Kill You".

Rumours of the death of Comrade Prop, leader of the People's Galaxy of Smelt, swept the known universe today after he failed to appear for his world's National Doodsey celebrations. Comrade Prop has become popular as the first communist leader to have a sense of humour, and he will be much mourned in the Lower Quadrant, where the poor planets are clustered.

Later: live TV transmissions from Smelt were announced, direct from Comrade Prop's lying-in-state. This seemed to confirm rumours of his death.

Later still: During a particularly solemn moment of Comrade Prop's lying-in-state, he leapt from his coffin and said to the camera: "So much for rumours of my death! Had you there, didn't I?"

A scandal has blown up in the Inter-Galaxy Snooker Finals, now in its last year. Snooker is now computerised so that a shot on any table can be reproduced on any other table, which means that none of the competitors has to leave home. But Steve Byron-2, the Glut champion, is accused of tampering with the computer programmes so that the pockets move to meet his ball. The Video Squad have been called in to investigate.

Universal Telecom reminds all thinking creatures that tomorrow is the last day for telepathic messages for Universe Day. The weather will continue strange, with black holes in the Lower Quadrant and occasional asteroid showers everywhere. Now here are the main points of the Cosmic News again.

THE TIMES

Tomorrow

START THE WEEKEND WITH THE PAPER THAT INFORMS, STIMULATES, AMUSES AND PROVOKES

- Values: 100 gift ideas to toy with; why the proof of puddings and cakes for Christmas lies in the testing
- Choirs: Paul Jennings in praise of the vox pop
- Sport: Draw for 3rd round of the FA Cup; can Coventry continue their comeback against Liverpool?
- Travel: For Ever England - Jamaica; and Weekend Breaks in France

Plus: News from home and abroad; the top gardening column on what to buy green-fingered relatives; Drink on the Hospices de Beaune; guide to carol services; Family Life on what children should give their parents; Out and About on angling and steam railways; selected choice of the week's events in the arts

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FRIDAY PAGE

Pat Jones is caught in a poverty trap. It has cost her her husband, her home and her happiness, as she tells Veronica Grocock

Drowning in a surging sea of debt

When Mrs Pat Jones first learnt that she had to give up her Birmingham home, she was heartbroken. It was the final and most harrowing blow in a long fight against accumulating debts, and she describes it as "like being kicked by a mule"

"We had been forced to sell the car, and Barry's dad lost a leg as a result of diabetes, so all the work dried up anyway. Then we had problems with the Inland Revenue. They more or less accused me of cooking the books."

Eventually, the business folded completely. It was the first time that Barry had ever been out of work. He began to claim supplementary benefit. Soon afterwards, Pat gave up her nursing job, partly because of the unsocial hours, but mainly because it was proving financially impractical (her earnings were being deducted from his social security payments, so that "all I was working for was £4 a week").

They slid deeper and deeper into debt. Household bills were put to one side and forgotten. Pat suffered from constant depression through sheer worry about making ends meet.

"I was in such a state over it all. Barry just used to 'up' and go out. We seemed to drift further and further apart. We could never talk about our financial troubles. His attitude was 'Never mind, let's keep going and hope for the best'. But I was the one answering the door to these people..."

Among the creditors were British Telecom, British Gas, the Inspector

I feel very sad because the children never have anything new

of Taxes, the local water authority and a catalogue collection agency. The biggest sums still outstanding are the mortgage and rates arrears, about £600 each.

The Department of Health and Social Security says her gas bill direct now, and she has had an electric slot meter installed which clocks up an average of £2 a day. (When they have a Sunday roast the meter registers about £3.50.)



Pat Jones with her family, from left, Nathan, Donna, Temple, Emma, Holly and Tara: "We've lost everything"

Birmingham's Money Advice Centre, to which Pat turned for advice in June, has now compiled an administration order itemizing the family's debts. This arranges for a fixed amount to be divided among the creditors in agreed weekly instalments.

Then there are all the "unseen" extras, such as children's clothing, school photographs, and washing-machines that break down - as Pat's did recently. "It cost me £10. I had to borrow that."

Pat and Barry have now separated, after 17 years of marriage. It was no stormy, hammer-and-tongs parting, she says, but a direct result of their recent vicissitudes. "It's really very sad, because we used to get on really well, and he's a good father. We've had some nice times..."

A proficient DIY man, Barry's interest in the home quickly waned when their finances slumped. "He did all the kitchen in pine wood. It was beautiful. He was so upset at losing the house that he just ripped the lot out."

Pat and five of her children (Donna, the eldest, is staying with

Pat's mother) have been rehoused in a much smaller house slightly further from the city centre. "I've always been able to turn to my mum. She's been very good", Pat says. Barry is staying temporarily with Pat's brother, who owns a pub in Birmingham.

The children seem to have adapted well to the family's changing circumstances. Even so, as a conscientious and caring mother, Pat is concerned about their day-to-day wellbeing. "I feel very sad", she says again, "because they never have anything new."

She groans at the thought of Christmas, remembering last year when "we sat here without a drink or anything. The kids had their things. It was the first year that Mum and Dad didn't come to us on Christmas Day. I think it was just because the atmosphere was so bleak."

When you are on the breadline, feeding a family of six is a perpetual worry, especially during the school holidays (the children have free school meals). "I do things like sausage and mash, egg and chips. But meat is a luxury."

The eldest son, Temple, 16, is a

petty officer in the sea cadets. Recently he won an award for the best cadet of the year in the United Kingdom. The prize was a month's trip to Canada. He went there last July. "We were over the moon about it", his mother says.

She is proud, too, of her daughter, Donna, who landed a secretarial job within weeks of joining a government training scheme. Donna and her boyfriend took Pat and the youngest son, Nathan, who is partially sighted, on a camping holiday in Devon last summer. "She's such a thoughtful girl. We had a nice caravan and she paid for everything..."

"People think that when you're down and out, it reflects on your kids, but I don't think it does. They're good kids - they accept - they know I haven't got the money."

Gloomily realistic, she realizes that she could face a lifetime of paying creditors: "It's like a milestone round my neck, all these debts are not going to vanish overnight."

There is not a "standard of living", she protests, "just an existence. You can't ask 'What shall we have for tea?'"

Thanks to loyal friends and the efforts of the Birmingham Money Advice Centre, the pressure is less intense than it was. With hindsight,

We hung on for grim death thinking 'Something will turn up'

she wishes she had sought help earlier. Instead, "we kept hanging on for grim death thinking 'Something will turn up'."

They received no official written notification of the council's intention to take possession of their home. The Money Advice Centre, intervening on the family's behalf, faced a frustrating amount of "buck-passing" by council departments. "We didn't know for such a long time what would happen to us, and that made it worse."

In time, Pat Jones hopes that they will "bounce back". She feels now that their previous house was "unlucky" for them, and that a fresh start in a new environment might signal a change in their fortunes.

She often looks back and wonders "How am I in the mess I'm in today?" Neither she nor Barry had ever got into debt before. Neither of them was given to rash spending or bouts of extravagance. They had no hire-purchase payments to maintain.

Through no fault of their own they found themselves in a poverty trap in which their living standards were eroded and they were denied even the most basic requirements of food, fuel and a roof over their heads.

"I'm worse off now at my age than I ever was", she says, "when things should be getting better with the kids growing up."

"When they were little, I worked and we managed. We've never had it really cushy, but we were able to have a fling sometimes. To think you've worked and scrimped all your life and ended up like this."

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Careful steps to rubella vaccination



The National Rubella Council campaign, launched with the support of the Princess of Wales recently, aims to encourage all teenage girls and adult women to accept rubella vaccination. Young girls, if they say yes to the job, will generally be vaccinated as a matter of routine through the schools immunization programme. But if you are an older woman and are not sure whether or not you are already immune to rubella, a few extra steps have to be taken.

It is vital that you are not pregnant when you go for a vaccination. The rubella vaccine contains live virus. This does not mean that you will pass the infection to other people, but there is a small risk that the virus could infect the baby you are carrying, just as it could if you had contracted rubella casually.

For this reason your doctor will probably take a blood test to see if you are already immune to rubella before vaccinating you against the disease. If you are not immune, he or she will ask you to return soon after a period for vaccination, to make sure that you are not pregnant. Your doctor will also want reassurances that you will use adequate contraception for at least three months afterwards.

After-effects



Some 8,000 Israeli doctors shocked their countrymen earlier this year when they used strike action to bring better working conditions and a 60 per cent wage increase from their government. But their action may yet rebound with not a little irony. A survey in Jerusalem has shown that the people of that city didn't suffer disastrously without full medical care.

The strike closed 28 general clinics, leaving hospitals - which were also running at only 30 per cent capacity with skeleton staff - and seven impromptu aid stations to cope.

Yet throughout the 17-week strike no more people died than in a similar period the year before. Dr Paul Slater and Dr Pnina Ever-Hadani argue in The Lancet that this raises the question whether in normal times Jerusalem has too many doctors.

Water menace



The organism which causes the pneumonia known as Legionnaires' disease is commonly found in British hospitals and hotels, experts from the Public Health Laboratory Service have discovered. One laboratory found that 36 out of 54 hotels and hospitals had the organism, Legionella, in their water systems.

These findings, reported in the Lancet, should not evoke the panic which surrounded the first recognized outbreak of Legionnaires' at an American Legion convention seven years ago. The experts explain that it is simply more evidence that the organism is common and in most cases does not do much harm.

However, Legionella can cause sometimes fatal pneumonia in individuals who are already weakened by an underlying illness such as another chest infection, cancer or an immune system deficiency, and the findings do illustrate that measures to prevent these cases will have to be taken in a large number of establishments.

Child fears



Young children with chronic constipation are often miserable and a great concern to their parents. Pain from struggling to defecate leads to fear of going to the lavatory and a temporary loss of the reflex of responding to a full bowel. Some parents become so worried that the child is sent to hospital where the impacted faeces are removed and the child examined to make sure there is no obstruction.

Parents and child are usually reassured that nothing is wrong, but as soon as they all go home again the child slips back into the old pattern.

Increasingly, however, child psychiatrists and psychotherapists are becoming involved in helping children and parents change their behaviour at home. Dr Alison Fraser, tutor in child and adolescent psychology at the University of Manchester, has worked with children who had problems with involuntary soiling.

The impetus of the scheme is that children should be kept out of hospital because investigations can be counter-productive. The families were visited at home by Dr Fraser, or one of her colleagues, and asked to keep a record of the child's behaviour.

The children were first reminded to go to the lavatory regularly. They were then rewarded with a star or extra playtime with their parents. Children were further rewarded if they went to the lavatory without prompting and, most importantly, any soiling was ignored.

Of the 55 children involved in the 10-month scheme, improvement was noticed in more than 60 per cent.

Critical days



There is circumstantial evidence to suggest that drinking in early pregnancy may be the most harmful time for unborn children. The fetus is well formed by the end of the first three months of pregnancy and it seems that there may be "critical days" within that period, when an excess of alcohol may lead to a baby being born with abnormalities - recognized as the foetal alcohol syndrome. But when the days fall is still open to speculation and research.

Women who continue to drink in early pregnancy, but then stop after being advised to at the "booking clinic" at hospital sometime between the eighth and sixteenth week, still produce smaller babies than those women who have cut down their alcohol consumption from the start.

All this cannot be of any great consolation to women who do not realize they have conceived since as many as one in three to four pregnancies are unplanned.

Dr Peter Davis, a Warwickshire GP with a special interest in the effects of alcohol on foetal development, also points out that at the moment about 1 to 2 per cent of all babies are congenitally deformed, but wonders whether any of these expected abnormalities are due to overindulgence. He stresses that only more research will provide the answer.

Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

Who can help when the money runs out?

There are more than three million children in Britain whose parents are on the poverty line. As unemployment rises, a growing number of families are finding themselves steeped in debt. Today's debtors are not so much the "won't pay" but the "can't pay". A recent report by the National Consumer Council and Welsh Consumer Council describes who gets into debt, why and how, and what happens to them.

Mrs Shelagh Salter, chairman of the Welsh Consumer Council, explains: "The single most important cause of consumer debt today is a sudden unexpected drop in income - such as that which is caused by redundancy, short-time working, illness, a death in the family or marriage break-up."

"Knocked for six by an event like that, people who previously paid their bills promptly and responsibly

may suddenly find themselves with little hope of repaying what they owe. Frozen in a blind panic, they may do nothing at all - except hope for a miracle. They don't know where to turn for advice and help - there is a severe shortage of money advice services. They may be ignorant of their rights and of the course that the law may take against them if they don't pay. Instead of doing the sensible thing and telling their creditors at the outset about their financial circumstances (which may ensure sympathetic treatment) they tend to keep quiet."

It is not easy to measure the full extent of debt in Britain today, says the report, because information is patchy. "But one thing is clear", says the National Consumer Council's Elizabeth Stanton, "it's growing. And although only a minority of people may be affected, for them it can be a nightmare."

"Many debtors are victims of some kind of crisis. That doesn't absolve them of their responsibilities but it does mean they should be treated with humanity, given an orderly way out of the mire and helped back on to sound financial ground."

The report includes examples such as the following:

● Between 1979 and 1982 the proportion of loans from the 19 biggest building societies which were more than six months in arrears doubled from 0.19 per cent to 0.42 per cent.

● The number of tenants in rent arrears between 1980 and 1982 rose by almost half, and the amount outstanding more than doubled, among 13 Welsh housing authorities.

It also makes certain recommendations for helping to prevent debt:

● More education in consumer literacy and money management skills, which are needed by all school children to prepare them for adult life.

● Public bodies and commercial lenders should be sensitive to the individual circumstances of those who owe them money.

● Fuel boards and water authorities should use disconnection only as a last resort.

Debtors and their families must be protected from harassment, says the report, and expert money advice early on, before problems get out of hand, is crucial. Mrs Stanton says: "We look for a system that is firm but fair, effective but humane."

Of more than five million inquiries dealt with annually by citizens' advice bureaux, 100,000 involve debt. A report from the West Midlands, Debt in the Recession,*

published earlier this year, suggests that around 20 per cent of their workload involves money-related problems. Fifty per cent of the project's cases were unemployed, with the failure of small businesses coming a close second.

Sheila Gibbons, a project worker and author of the report, said: "Debt is often thought to result from the ease with which people can take on credit. But most of the problems I dealt with involved the payment of basic essentials such as rent, rates, gas, electricity and clothing."

An estimated £9 million of debt has been handled by CABs in the West Midlands during 1983, a figure believed to be just the tip of the iceberg.

"Debt in the Recession: The report of the Money Advice Development Project, a project funded by the West Midlands County Council."

COMMENT

Not quite equal to the task

Strange things are going on in Parliament this week in the name of sex equality. Today the Sex Equality Bill, private members' bill presented by Jo Richardson, receives its second reading. And on Monday, the Government made its third attempt to introduce the Equal Pay (Amendment) Regulations in the House of Lords.

The history of the Equal Pay (Amendment) Regulations is unusual, to say the least. The European Court of Justice found Britain in breach of community law in July 1982, in that our legislation did not include the concept of equal pay for work of equal value. As a result, the Government prepared regulations and procedures which were passed in the House of Commons in July, but withdrawn from the House of Lords twice before being passed, with an amendment, last Monday.

The amendment, moved by Lord McCarthy, added to the motion of approval: "but that this House believes that the regulations do not adequately reflect the 1982 decision of the European Court of Justice and Article 1 of the EEC Equal Pay Directive of 1975."

It is a considerable defeat for the Government. The lords spoke passionately against the regulations. Lord Denning described them "tortuous and obscure". They are indeed obscure and tortuous. They are also objectionable in allowing the employer a far wider defence than in other equal pay cases.

Speaking in the Commons in July, the minister adduced "market

forces" as a "material factor" employers could use in their defence. But it is precisely those "market forces" which allow women to earn only 74 per cent of what men earn. And the percentage is falling. What price then satisfying the EEC directive on equal pay?

Then there is the Sex Equality Bill. Among other things, it aims to introduce the concept of "equal value" into a long-overdue consolidation of the Equal Pay and Sex Discrimination Act. It also incorporates half the amendments to those Acts proposed by the Equal Opportunities Commission in 1982.

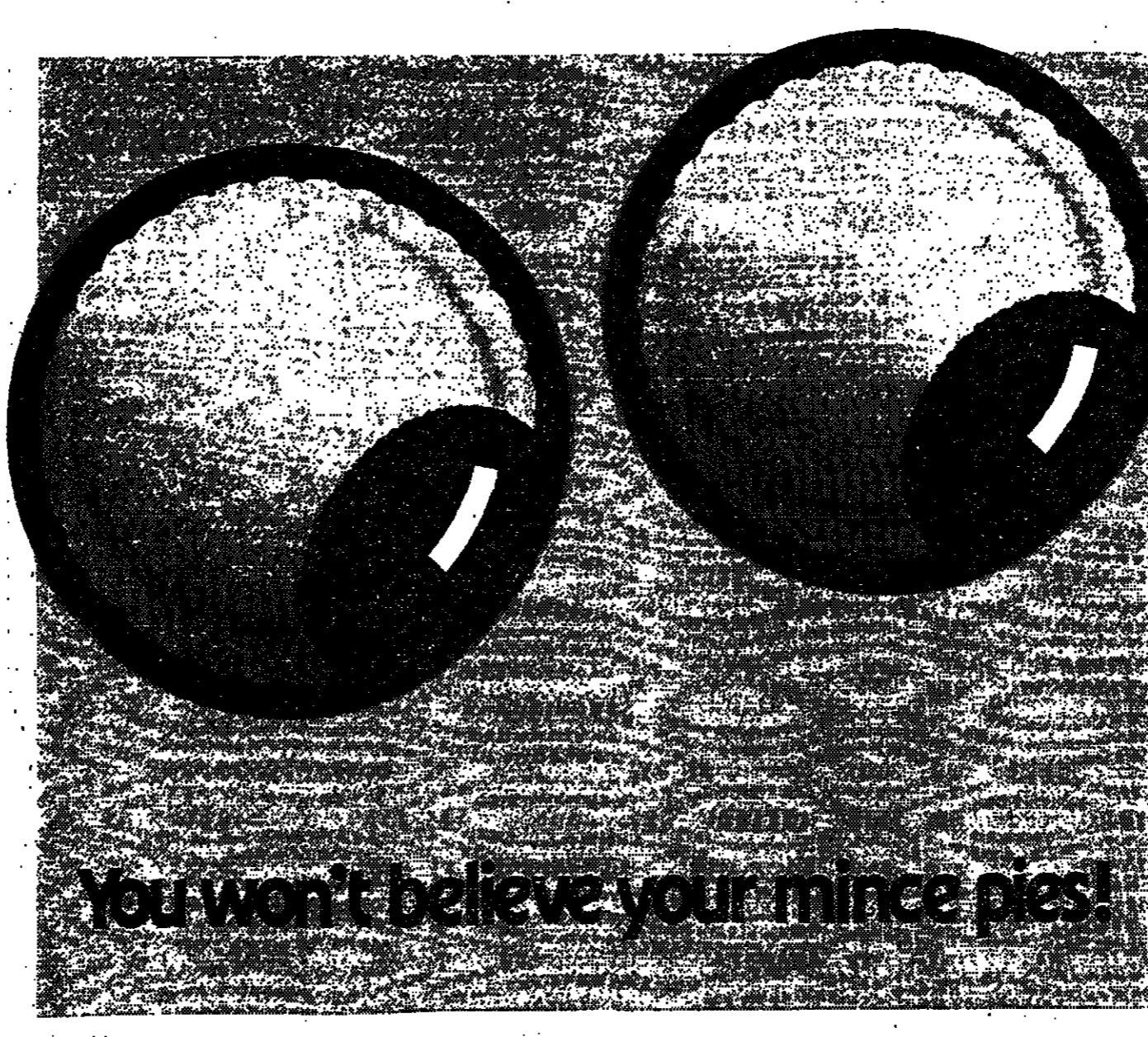
But it has grave defects. For instance, on this vexed equal value concept it concentrates on collective agreements, recommending that cases which may have a "substantial effect" on such agreements be referred to the central arbitration committee. That has some merit, yet Europe requires the right to determination of equal value claims by "judicial process", which means by an individual before a court. The central arbitration committee is no court. But the industrial tribunal is.

More importantly, however, the Bill is designed to make unlawful discrimination on grounds of homosexuality. But discrimination on grounds of sexual preference is not discrimination on grounds of sex, and the Bill cannot pretend that it is.

What the Government should do now is produce new primary legislation containing the EOC's proposed amendments. Only then will the need for complicated subordinate legislation be over, and we will cease to be found constantly in breach of European law. But it shows no sign of doing so.

Today's debate is of enormous importance, however, and the Bill, despite reservations, is deserving of support, for it is a brave beginning to a long overdue process of establishing real equal treatment for women in the United Kingdom.

Julia Neuberger



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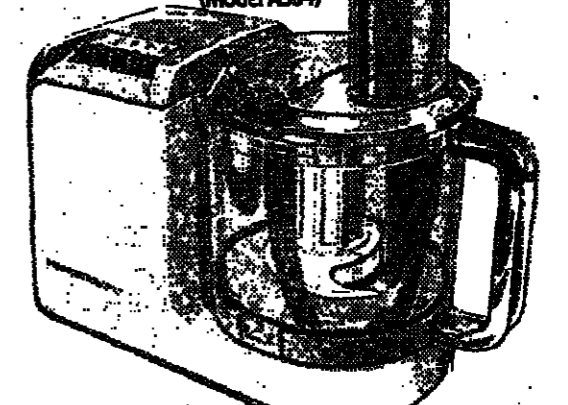
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THE TIMES DIARY

Will he, won't he?

Exactly who wrote what to whom in the Yorkshire Television/Ministry of Defence/IBA debate concerning tomorrow's televised transmission of The Day After promises to be more interesting than the programme itself. The Ministry claimed that Yorkshire's first written approach to Michael Heseltine asked only "would he like the opportunity to go on television?" after the programme.

Yorkshire Television seem to remember that the request to Heseltine took the form of a teletype letter, telexed to the Ministry on November 30, outlining exactly what they had in mind for the Ministry to do - that is, be interviewed by Robert Kee and take part in a panel discussion along with Robert McNamara and General Bernard Rogers. (After the telex was despatched, it was learned that General Rogers was unable to appear on the programme.)

Mr Heseltine didn't reply to Yorkshire or even send them a copy of the letter that he subsequently wrote to the IBA stating that the political direction of the film was unbalanced. Yesterday, Mr Heseltine received a reply from Lord Thomson, chairman of the IBA, who didn't disclose the contents of his letter to Yorkshire either.

By lunchtime yesterday Yorkshire, having been kept in the dark by practically everyone, were of the opinion that the Minister had decided not to appear but Mr Heseltine's assistant was saying, more promisingly: "I can't say that he wouldn't appear and I can't say that he can."

Head start

Imran Khan, the flamboyant captain of the Pakistan cricket team, has entered the beauty business, backing a handresser called Dar, formerly of Vidal Sassoon. According to the Asian newspaper New Life, "Dar has pampered the hair of celebrities like Elkie Brooks, Russell Harty and many top international models."

Double tempo

Some concertgoers are beginning to think that the GLC is "Working for the Arts in London" rather too strenuously. In its attempts to boost trade at the Royal Festival Hall, the council has introduced jazz sessions in the Music Box on the third floor. The sound of these sessions often filters through to the main concert hall, giving patrons two concerts for the price of one.

Team spirit

President Canaan Banana of Zimbabwe has disclosed where he would like to be buried: Harare's Rufaro soccer stadium. The 47-year-old president, a football fanatic who helped found the Zimbabwe parliament's Tornado team, revealed his choice at a recent soccer stars' banquet.

Badge of courage

While Danuta Wales is waiting to collect her husband's Nobel Prize in Oslo tomorrow, thousands of badges commemorating the occasion are being clandestinely produced in Poland. The badges simply say "Nobel '83" with a white dove fluttering below the large rounded letters made famous in the Solidarity logo.

Silver lining

The very day after the Athens summit failed, the European Commission announced it had granted "a negative clearance to a know-how agreement." It was apparently something about which was allowed to make the rubber things which keep rainwater out of cars. Perhaps Athens was not such a failure after all.

PR: call in the professionals

by David Burnside

Would Mrs Thatcher ever have considered putting Lord Whitlaw, Mr Biffen or Mr Pym in charge of coordinating and presenting Conservative policies during an election campaign?

Surely not. In the tight discipline of an election, the Conservative Party has shown, both in 1979 and even more so in 1983, that it is up to all the tricks of the public relations and marketing trade. The clearly amateur Labour campaign organization and the over-flamboyant tenderness of the Alliance were no match for the slick and authoritative machine in Smith Square.

Why then is the Conservatives' performance or even their apparent understanding of public relations so abysmal when in government?

Let us take an example. No public relations man can change the fact that the burden of taxation has risen under this government. To try to claim otherwise would be blatant distortion - and quite unconvincing. Yet if the Government retains, from the Prime Minister down, a commitment to tax reduction, it should surely be within the wit of its PR men to orchestrate a popular campaign to promote the economic advantages of less tax - the advantages spelled out quite well in its two recent manifestos - and to explain what must be done to achieve it. On past performance, it is unlikely that such a campaign will be launched, let alone be successful.

Mr Pym, responsible for government PR from 1981 to 1982, could not coordinate the representation of the Government's policies

and "corporate image" because he did not really believe in either. Mr Biffen, between 1982 and 1983, adopted the fatalistic approach of a "true Tory" so convinced of the Conservatives' right to govern that re-election would come naturally rather than having to be worked for.

What are Lord Whitlaw's prospects? To start with, he can only fail in his stewardship if government public relations is confined to using his seniority to stop his more junior colleagues saying the wrong thing at the wrong time.

As in policy formulation, policy projection can only be carried out successfully if the established government information service is demoted from its present dominating and influencing role in No 10 and government departments. There is a need for a fully-fledged Prime Minister's Department and it should contain a PR secretariat to serve Lord Whitlaw in his new-found role. Its staff should be drawn not from governmental service but from the private sector, and developed and financed on the same lines, which is accepted by all parties, as the small band of policy advisers who at present surround a number of ministers.

Certainly, a No 10 press secretary and departmental heads of information should be appointed (and trained) to manage the day-to-day dissemination of departmental

information. It is time these officials were relieved of the task of advising ministers on strategies for policy presentation. Public relations is not just about passing out data; it requires expertise, planning and, in a political environment, political sensitivity. By tradition, training and, largely, inclination, those currently charged with the task of coordinating government PR are not suited to the role.

Without radical structural change, government public relations will inevitably continue its present course; conflicting speeches from different ministers, poorly written, badly timed, and fired shot-gun fashion at the media and the public; ministers' popping up on television and radio ill-prepared, half-hearted and often quite oblivious to the demands of this "modern" medium of communication; an accent on defence, post justification and minimization of damage.

It is a tragedy that a Conservative government has to rely on winning elections despite itself and hoping for continuing failures and inadequacies from its opponents, rather than running a sustained and planned PR campaign, culminating in the six-week, purely party, battle at the hustings. Just as they did in 1983, the party professionals and advisers will again, in 1987-8, be forced to rescue the vote-winning potential of the Conservative Party in the run-up to a general election, so decimated by its dire PR performance during its years in government.

The author is public relations director to the Institute of Directors.

David Butler asks why the Tories still ride high after six indifferent months

Winning in spite of themselves

Six months ago today Mrs Thatcher was re-elected with the biggest majority since the war. Today, surprisingly, polls show that the Government still retains the 43 per cent support recorded on June 9. The Conservatives do not seem to have paid any electoral price either for the embarrassments that have beset them, or for the recent improvements in Labour's image.

At the beginning of the new Parliament Mrs Thatcher was smacked over the speakership, over MPs' pay, and over capital punishment. The Government has been visibly inept in its handling of foreign affairs and of the Parkinson scandal. And health service cuts have brought into salience one of the few issues on which it was patently a loser. Although the economic indicators have shown some improvement, Mr Lawson's utterances on taxation, taken in conjunction with the speeches of Mr Walker and Mr Pym, as well as the growth from the right wing, have hardly left an impression of a strong government confidently striving prosperity.

At the same time, Labour has come unscathed through what had promised to be a devastating leadership conflict. Neil Kinnock with his charm and potential appeal has replaced the low-rated Michael Foot. During the honeymoon period, the party has done nothing to remind the electorate of the divisions that proved so alienating in the previous parliament.

Why then has the electorate failed to show its accustomed volatility? After six indifferent months, the Government is still handsomely ahead in the polls. Not since 1961 has the party in power managed to stay sustainably in front for more than 18 months. Have the rules of the political game changed fundamentally?

For the last five years the path of British politics has defied the expectations of participants and observers alike. In 1979, no one envisaged three million unemployed, and no one would have forecast the re-election of a government that presided over such record

joblessness. The automatic assumption that unemployment cost votes has been shattered.

But new assumptions grow up. The wild instability of the polls between December 1980 and June 1982 (confirmed by the results of by-elections and local elections) taught us to expect a continuing sea-saw from an ever more volatile electorate.

Table with 3 columns: Party, June 1982 (MORF), June 1983 (MORF). Rows: Highest, Lowest.

When every party saw its strength change by more than 20 per cent within a few months, politics had reached a new pitch of uncertainty. But since then an unexpected stability has come over the scene.

Table with 3 columns: Party, July 1982, December 1983 (MORF). Rows: Highest, Lowest.

After the Bermondsey by-election and again during the general election, the Alliance crept up momentarily on Labour. But, by and large, since the Falklands war the broad pattern of party support has stayed within a point or two of Conservative 44 per cent, Labour 34, Alliance 20.

Since last October, Labour's support, which during the early stages of its leadership fight stayed at or below its general election abyss, has climbed up, stealing perhaps two points from the Conservatives and six from the Alliance.

Voting intentions fluctuate in response both to events and to changing conceptions about the leaders and the parties. Leaders matter less than many suppose, but certainly their images today are sharply differentiated. Collectively the Conservatives are seen as the party which "has the best leaders" (52 per cent say Conservative to 21 per cent Labour). Although Mrs Thatcher has a slightly lower rating on almost every quality today than she did nine months ago, perceptions of her outstanding characteristics are unchanged - 82 per cent

of party loyalty so spectacularly over the last 20 years are still at work.

Moreover, the essential weaknesses of each of the parties are still there. Labour's solid working-class base has been eroded by the spread of house ownership and the growth in non-manual employment. And its prospects are limited by its structure and its ideological involvements.

A year from now the process of reselection will start and news reports about the party will focus on the constituency troubles of some leading Labour MPs. The party is in financial straits and the current Employment Bill may make things far worse.

The Alliance, despite its 25 per cent of the votes last June, and its generally inoffensive image, has still to settle its internal disputes. The dualism of the two Davids may be far more damaging than any of the leadership troubles of the last few years. Moreover the Alliance will have great difficulty in securing publicity for anything save its quarrels. It must rely on stipendities by its larger rivals and a fortunate incidence of by-elections to reassert its prominence. It has a larger bridgehead than three years ago but the spectacular breakthrough of 1982 will be harder to repeat in 1985.

The Conservatives can look forward to four years in power. Yet their position is flawed. They have less support in votes than any Conservative government since 1922. They depend on a strong leader who is admired rather than loved; their secondary leaders are notably lacking in charisma or communications skills. The conflict between a middle-of-the-road pragmatism and a militantly free enterprise ideology has more divisive potential than ever before.

The economic future remains uncertain. It will be strange if, at the least, the Conservatives escape the mid-Parliament slump. Remember Orpington (1962)? Sutton and Cheam (1972)? Hillhead (1982)? The author is a Fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford.



Garland's comment in The Daily Telegraph last April.

... then pour the boiling water out of the kettle into the leopard?

still see her as stubborn, 78 as tough and 60 per cent as resolute; only 28 per cent see her as caring and 15 per cent as warm.

The public gives Mr Kinnock a better rating than Mr Foot on almost every quality: he is seen as more caring (42 per cent) and warm (31 per cent) than Mrs Thatcher but less tough (38 per cent), stubborn (33 per cent), or resolute (34 per cent). The findings suggest a sense of suspended judgment about Neil Kinnock as a leader.

But, over time, issues matter more than personalities. Current attitudes on key problems remain the main source of Conservative strength. On the handling of almost every subject except the health service the Conservatives continue to outrate Labour. Even on the volatile and increasingly salient questions of defence policy, the public continues to be heavily multilateralist, even if it is evenly divided on cruise.

Although party support has been unexpectedly stable over the last 18 months, there is no reason to suppose that this will continue. The factors that have loosened the glue

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

Freezing out the urban terrorist

It was five minutes past curtain-time, and I was beginning to wonder (knowing that at this particular theatre they tend to be punctual in starting) whether all was not well with the leading lady, when a familiar figure appeared in front of the curtain and said, with a kind of authoritative charm, "Ladies and gentlemen, I'm afraid we have a rather special kind of problem this evening, and we must ask you to leave the building at once - the police will notify you when you may return."

We rose, and proceeded in an orderly fashion to the exits. (Two members of the audience were seen running, but it was agreed by the rest of us that they must have been foreigners. In the hour or so we spent on the pavement in waiting that would have frozen a penguin, it was possible to reflect on certain questions of the day in a particularly concentrated manner.

First, it was noticeable that nobody at all was in doubt as to the meaning of the management's words, though "bomb", "telephone-call" and "danger" were not among them. Second, nobody grumbled, except at the perishing cold; those who might be presumed to have caused us our discomfort were not abused in absentia, nor was there any sense of outrage. Nobody even denounced the management for closing the cloakrooms as soon as the evacuation order was decided upon, and nobody ventured the opinion that they should have treated the telephone-call as the hoax it was overwhelmingly likely (and in the event proved) to be.

Next, it was apparent once more that an emergency always brings out the friendliness in the British; people who had never met before were talking to each other within a few minutes, and I darsay that in years to come there will be devoted couples telling their friends "We met in a bomb-scare". (Kenneth Tynan, reviewing The Iceberg Cometh, said that in the fourth hour the atmosphere in the theatre was exactly like that in a wartime air-raid shelter, with "complete strangers offering one another warguns".)

And finally, I had the melancholy and useless satisfaction of knowing that I solved this problem some years ago, and publicly announced my solution, too, though I did not expect anything to be done (nor was it), because the people who would have had to do the doing were those in charge of the telephone service; I had no respect for the British Telecom will be any more headful than their predecessors, but I may as well repeat my solution anyway. It is to change from our present telephone system of what is technically known as "calling party release" to "called party release". At present if I call you and you hang up but I don't, you remain connected to me; if the system were inverted, the bomb-boxer (or genuine bomb planter for that matter) would hang up, having given his ominous message, only to find that he was still connected to his victim, thus enabling him to be traced promptly and with certainty.

Meanwhile, a few conclusions can be drawn. It is little more than a decade since serious urban terrorism has been reported in civilized western societies began; before that, there was nothing to worry about, apart from the interminable wars of Chicago gangsters, a brief flurry by the IRA just before the Second World War, and the random actions of those who were collectively known as anarchists and who were so little regarded as a threat to society that the type was always portrayed as a comic figure with a cloak, a fringe beard, and a round "infernal machine" which was gently smoking and invariably labelled "Bomb".

Now comes change tout cela. And yet... Air piracy is of the same modernity as bomb-planting, but we no more grumble at, or find in any way surprising, the searches of

made less worth living by such trivia? In Lebanon, life must be hardly bearable; in Belfast it must be at least very different; but I am not talking of the centres of violence, only of the violence in those countries where it is either random (as in West Germany and Italy) or designed (as in mainland Britain) to bring pressure to bear on those who will ultimately have to decide whether the centres of violence can be pacified by political action.

The truth that emerges is very encouraging. First in the United States, then in Western Germany, then increasingly in Italy, the political urban terrorists have been reduced to tiny handfuls of disheartened wretches. They have been reduced by patient, unwavering work on the part of democratic authorities and their forces of order, and by the refusal of the general public either to panic or to demand that peace should be achieved by surrender.

There was neither fear nor anger on that chilly pavement the other night; only an instinctive understanding that the price we were paying to keep our society not only free but calm and ordered was ludicrously small compared to what it was buying. If the hoaxer who turned us out into the night is caught, I think six months or so in the hoosegaw would be appropriate, besides tending to discourage others like him, for it is not actually fun to freeze to death even if everybody around you is freezing to death as well. But if we have to waste a few minutes at an airport, or to get cold outside a theatre, or to be even to be startled from time to time by a loud bang followed by the sound of fire-engines and ambulances, civilized life will not become impossible, or even seriously diminished, even if we have to put up with those things for decades to come, that will remain true. Why, when in the interval of the resumed performance I met the spokesman who had made the original ominous announcement, I shook his hand warmly, in token that all was forgiven. And in truth there was nothing to forgive.

Are lives seriously disrupted or

David Watt

What's left when the dust settles?

When the nuclear catastrophe film The Day After (which Britain will see tomorrow) was shown on American television, it was followed not only by a panel discussion of experts, but also by a panel discussion of experts. The most interesting contribution to this session came from Dr Carl Sagan, a physicist from Cornell University, who has become a considerable TV personality in the United States, thanks to his skilful presentation of programmes about the nature of the universe. Sagan's complaint about The Day After was that it was far too soft. In his view, it grossly underestimates the horror of nuclear war by ignoring two of the most severe after-effects: darkness and cold.

The work of a group of American scientists suggests that the result of the kind of nuclear exchange imagined in the film would be a "nuclear winter" lasting up to a year, in which light would be severely reduced, if not extinguished, and temperatures in many parts of the northern hemisphere might fall to freezing in summer, and arctic frost in winter.

This hypothesis is just beginning to get publicity in Britain and in the aftermath of The Day After it is likely to get more. However, if it is true, its significance can hardly be over-emphasized: for it would overturn the whole of the conventional view about deterrence and the nature of nuclear war. It is very important, therefore, to understand what is involved.

The first and main thing to grasp is that this is a quite new twist to the argument. In the past there has been plenty of talk about the danger likely to be caused by the debris thrown up into the atmosphere by a large number of nuclear blasts at ground level or a little above it. But after considerable debate, scientists have generally concluded in recent years, that most of the dust would be of sufficient bulk to come down fairly fast and what was left in the stratosphere after a few days or weeks would be no more than is thrown up by a single large volcanic eruption - much more dangerous, certainly, since it is radioactive, but not enough to make permanent or fundamental changes in the environment or endanger life on a grand scale. Those far enough from the explosions to escape blast and burns, and able to take cover from the contamination of immediate fall-out, would survive.

The essence of the new theory is that it takes account of a factor that has not been seriously considered before, namely smoke. The blasts would cause devastating fires. Cities, forests and grasslands would burn fiercely, but incompletely, for many days, and project scores of tons of soot particles into the troposphere (lower atmosphere). Now soot particles have different properties from normal dust. They are very small and therefore do not fall to earth so fast. Second, being carbonaceous, they are highly absorbent. A thick smoky layer would spread within a few weeks over large areas of the northern hemisphere.

Because solar radiation would be absorbed by it, there would be immediate drops in temperature of up to several tens of degrees centigrade, and very little light. Moreover, as the sooty blanket warmed up in the middle troposphere, faster, to add to the layer.

Nevertheless, everyone - including the authors of a Soviet study - seems to agree (a) that temperature disturbances of some kind are very plausible and (b) that the effect of soot particles is a neglected and important factor in the post-nuclear equation which ought to have much more study. There will now, presumably, be a pause while a considerable dog-fight in the scientific community takes place. Meanwhile the vision of a dark and freezing planet is a terrible and haunting one.

The resulting atmospheric balance - a warm smoke layer overlying a cold air layer of cold earth - would reduce rain and snowfall and help stabilize the mass so that these conditions would probably last for many months.

The damage that might be done by this state of affairs depends, clearly, on its severity and duration. It is common ground that those who live beside oceans would be better off than others, because the sea acts as a store of heat. But if, as Mr Sagan and others now claim, the minimum temperature on the big American and Eurasian land masses after a 5,000-megaton war, were 23°C even in summer, and the light, after a 10,000 megaton war too little to support photosynthesis for many months, the biological consequences might well be the disappearance of huge tracts of vegetation resulting, by a chain reaction, in the death of animals and in fearful famines.

This scenario is, or ought to be, music in the ears of any sensible person interested in peace. For if it is right, it has the priceless advantage of demonstrating to any American or Soviet leader that if he launches a massive nuclear attack it will produce his own destruction automatically. This is the first point: unlike the deterrents contained in the opponent's possession of nuclear weapons (which is dependent on many imponderables, such as will-power, invulnerability of missiles to first strike, and so forth) this deterrent is absolutely certain, and inherent in the nature of the earth and the sky. The second point is that (unlike President Reagan's will o' the wisp of an infallible anti-missile defence) it is not destabilizing. It does not do away with nuclear weapons and the caution that goes with a nuclear stalemate. For the possibility of one's opponent using a strictly limited number of nuclear weapons and therefore avoiding a nuclear winter would remain; and with it, the necessity of possessing some nuclear weapons oneself.

The only thing is: is it true? I have consulted a few British scientists in this field and they are understandably cautious. There are many uncertainties in the hypothesis, and the actual figures of a likely temperature drop are highly sensitive to them. Using an only slightly different model of the rate and direction that particles normally spread in the atmosphere, and making slightly different assumptions of the quantities of soot produced, or the amount of cloud cover at the time of the explosions, or the exact amount of dispersion to be expected from rain or wind, one comes up (as another group of scientists in California have done) with a temperature drop of only 10 to 15 degrees, rising again to no more than 2 degrees below normal within 90 days.

Nevertheless, everyone - including the authors of a Soviet study - seems to agree (a) that temperature disturbances of some kind are very plausible and (b) that the effect of soot particles is a neglected and important factor in the post-nuclear equation which ought to have much more study. There will now, presumably, be a pause while a considerable dog-fight in the scientific community takes place. Meanwhile the vision of a dark and freezing planet is a terrible and haunting one.

Philip Howard

And we'll all pool together...

The Old Coll is starting a museum. Belt up the Harrovians and other trouble-makers at the back who shouted that it always was one. This summer Eton College is going to open the first public historical museum of a major British school. (Winchester and Harrow have galleries of works of art with some historical material; but not historical museums within the meaning of the Act; in any case their histories are far less interesting.)

The Provost of Eton, Lord Charteris, is about to send a letter to selected Old Etonians appealing for such memorabilia as pre-1914 top hats (preferably with eye seals), early reports and school books (not "long glass" from Tap. Please send nothing to the old boy until solicited. He does not wish to be buried beneath bits of carpentry laboriously made by grandpa in the School of Mechs, or photographs of house groups, unnamed.

The reason for this innovation is an interesting social change. Eton, without trying or wanting it, is attracting more than 60,000 tourists a year, mostly during the summer holidays. They come on the bus tour circuit from Windsor, or even from Heathrow, where enterprising companies pick them up from hotels while they are waiting between long-distance flights.

When I was a lad in College, visitors from outside were rare creatures: the parents of tugs (togati or King's Scholars) tended not to run up cars or the petrol. In my first year (1950) a Mr Thompson, a Long Chamber shouting, "Howard, a load of your relations has arrived to visit you."

They turned out to be Africans visiting my parents on Moral-Re-arrangement business. At the time I was not amused. Visitors come from all round the world today, without exciting the Little Etonian comment that they used to. It is sensible and admirable to give them a museum showing the history of the school. It will be housed in the fifteenth-century vaulted Undercroft beneath College

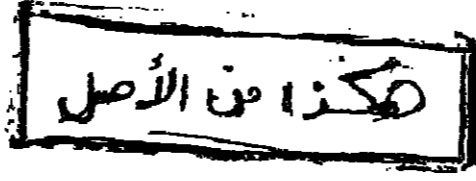
Hall, where the wine for high table and College beer (brewed next door in the Brewhouse) were stored.

One of the things we are going to have is a cupboard of things confiscated by beaks. We already have three offerings: the inevitable museum of a major British school. (Winchester and Harrow have galleries of works of art with some historical material; but not historical museums within the meaning of the Act; in any case their histories are far less interesting.)

We are going to have a mock-up of a boy's room of about a hundred years ago, and have much of the furniture in hand, including the bury (from the French bureau, do you suppose, Watson?), fold-up bed, wash-basin, brush-board and so on. We still need a really nice ottoman, and even a cane chair (plenty around, but people want to keep them). The room should probably purport to belong to an Oppidan web-bob in Pop, so that he can have accumulated the prettiest buttons and bows for the simple-minded available.

The museum will have to grasp the nettle of corporal punishment, since it is the subject that most arouses the curiosity of Eton's visitors. There will have to be an account of tanning and swishing, the block and Dr Keate of the strong right arm, who broke mutinies of boys by mass floggings that went on for hours. I avoided the block, though I had to attend its application as a preceptor in the awful solemnity. I nearly fainted, and I don't think Robert Birley enjoyed it much, either.

Among other delights are promised, including a gallery of distinguished Old Etonians from different centuries, as it might be Boyle, Shelley, Eric Blair, and so on. I predict establishment canvassing and ambitious rivalry about who gets into there as intense as the rivalry about who gets his Field colours. It is a great school and a repository of learning and English history - contrary to its image in the sensational press. Its museum will be a fascinating addition to our national archive of museums.





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

AIMS FOR THE ALLIANCE

Nato foreign ministers are meeting in Brussels amid greater uncertainty than usual about the aims and prospects of the alliance.

On the one hand there can be optimism that the military balance between East and West is in reasonable shape and that recently elected governments have been able to start implementing the Nato decision of 1979 on intermediate nuclear weapons.

On the other hand there has been an increase in public uneasiness which has expressed itself through opposition parties, primarily in Britain and West Germany, which have broken away from the central consensus on security.

If these parties do not return to the centre they could make the alliance itself an issue in future elections. It will therefore be more important than ever over the next few years for Nato to develop policies which are not only rational in themselves, and agreed among governments, but which also retain broad confidence among electorates.

Controversy over missile deployments is not really a central issue. It is a symptom of a deeper feeling that the alliance has been losing its sense of direction and consequently its cohesion.

funds appropriate to its wealth, and that it is insufficiently conscious of the extent to which its security interests could be threatened from outside the Nato area by interruptions in the supply of oil or other raw materials.

There have also been growing debates about the extent to which Nato defence depends on the early use of nuclear weapons. New developments in guidance systems and other areas of technology make it possible to have a much more effective conventional defence, so that the use of nuclear weapons could be delayed, but these new weapons are expensive.

Meanwhile Nato will have to tackle another major source of disquiet, which is the widespread feeling in Europe that it has lost sight of its obligation, regularly reaffirmed in Nato documents, to pursue security through political and diplomatic means as well as military.

A LITTLE PIECE OF ENGLAND

Calke Abbey is not one of the great English country houses. It is a handsome baroque pile of anonymous authorship put up at the start of the eighteenth century and given neo-classical trimmings a hundred years later.

Inside, as if the outcome of a successful experiment with time, there is preserved fresh and in full the furnishings and hangings, the furniture specimen cabinets and bric-a-brac, the tackroom and workshops, of a Victorian estate. It is that - the harmony of its surroundings and integrity of its interior - that makes Calke Abbey extra-special.

Its remarkable resistance to the march of time is explained by the recurrent reclusive tendency of the Harpur-Crewe family, which has owned the property since 1622.

he would be wrapt in solitary pursuits, of which 200 cases of stuffed birds are the only memorial.

The mansion being vast, a new occupant had no need to clear the clutter of his predecessor: he chose another room. And so the accumulation and fossilization continued, far surpassing Eddidge or Osborne.

And that is now the trouble. Vast capital taxes are being exacted on the death of the present owner's brother in 1981. Prudent administration would have reduced the liability, but would it have tolerated the inconvenience of keeping everything exactly as it was?

That rational solution has been rejected. It is clear from the minister's speech in the adjournment debate on Monday night that the proposal was judged and fell according to the norms of

doubt that the sharp deterioration in relations between the super powers has contributed a lot to the fears which have spawned the protest movements. Obviously Nato cannot return to the optimism of the early days of détente, which have been shown; now to have fostered illusions about possible breakthroughs in East-West relations.

It is in this area in particular that Lord Carrington will be able to make an outstanding contribution. His appointment as Secretary General is therefore not only welcome but just right in its timing.

The Home Secretary's statement of November 30 changed all that. Since the sentences for certain classes of offence are not to carry with them the likelihood of parole, like sentences no longer have equal value.

Will we now see an upward movement in sentences for serious fraud or theft to catch up with non-parole sentences for serious violence or a downward movement in sentences for violence to match their parole equivalents?

In fact the precedent and example, if any, would be excellent. A country house deemed worthy to be preserved for the enrichment of our culture and the enjoyment of the public would be maintained from the rents of agricultural land dedicated to that purpose.

The minister now urges the interested bodies to put their heads together and come up with an alternative scheme for securing Calke Abbey. One hopes that may be possible. But their heads have already spent a lot of time together without an alternative being found.

Ethiopian colonialism

From Mrs Mary Dines Sir, Louis FitzGibbon (November 22) rightly pointed out that, in spite of Ethiopia's appalling record on human rights, there has been a deafening silence on the subject internationally.

The incentives that interest the junta are food and money, theoretically for drought victims, "retirees" and a host of other unfortunate, but in practice to enable them to feed their massive army.

and in Ethiopia have also been neglected because the menfolk have been killed or taken for the army. Crops have also been destroyed and animals slaughtered.

The violations of human rights in Ethiopia are carried out by the junta and its local commissars. The West is as responsible for allowing this situation to continue as the Soviet Union, which has armed the junta to the teeth.

Oxford admissions From Mrs G. M. Dance Sir, We have now had time in which to consider the new arrangements for admission to Oxford University, and the more we consider them, the less happy we are.

sure for change has come most from certain less distinguished independent schools, where parents have been able to pay fees for a seventh term in the school.

Certainly, we can see no way in which the new system will benefit state schools. On the one hand, schools like this one, where we have been able to run a seventh-term sixth, thanks to the stamina and dedication of staff, will now have to decide whether to put fourth-term pupils in for the examination, knowing that the coaching we can offer at that stage will be considerably less than in public schools.

A matter of title From the Chairman of the Social Science Research Council Sir, Professor Fletcher (December 5) and your readers may like to know that on November 18 the Privy Council were pleased to approve on her Majesty's behalf, the proposal from my Council to change its name to the Economic and Social Research Council.

Prison terms of unequal value

From Mrs Sarah McCabe Sir, The writer of your third leader, "The place of parole" (December 3) drew attention to the principles of punishment upon which the Home Secretary will rely in excluding from release on licence certain categories of offences.

These general principles, retribution for the specific offence committed and deterrence from similar offences which might be contemplated either by the offender himself or by others, are, of course, the basis of the judges' calculation of the appropriate length of imprisonment for the mischief done by each offence.

The Home Secretary's statement of November 30 changed all that. Since the sentences for certain classes of offence are not to carry with them the likelihood of parole, like sentences no longer have equal value.

Will we now see an upward movement in sentences for serious fraud or theft to catch up with non-parole sentences for serious violence or a downward movement in sentences for violence to match their parole equivalents?

Disruption of concert From Mr Anthony Sinclair Sir, Miss Bazalgette, in her letter last Saturday (December 3), expressed a preference for the campaign for Soviet Jewry to be carried out other than by disrupting concerts.

Lines of beauty From Mr Joseph Dean Sir, May I put in a plea for the revival of traditional tree avenues along the routes of suitable motorways? The scattered planting of ill-assorted trees at irregular intervals, which seems at present to pass for treescape planning, creates a scruffy sort of landscape in places where lines of noble classical trees would in due course add beauty and dignity to the scene.

Purpose of pensions From Mr Patrick Carroll Sir, In the wholly commendable concern to achieve justice for the early leaver now disadvantaged by the terms of final-salary pension schemes there is a danger of losing sight of the purposes which pension schemes can serve in making it possible for employers to train employees.

Airlines' safety From Sir Archibald Hope Sir, On December 8 it will be exactly seven years since the Air Transport Users' Committee (of which I was then a member and later chairman) issued its report on European air fares. In this we showed that high fares in Europe were to a large extent caused by overmanning and low productivity of the European airlines, mostly nationally owned.

Penalty for KAL 007 From Sir Philip Goodhart, MP for Beckenham (Conservative) Sir, It is now three months since the Korean Airlines, KAL 007, was shot down by the Soviet air force. Since then, numerous international bodies have passed resolutions calling upon the Soviet Union to pay compensation, but it is plain that the Soviet Government has no intention of paying up.

Private belief and public reference From the Archbishop of York Sir, I have so far refrained from replying to your criticisms of my sermon on public faith in the hope that others would do the job better than myself - as indeed many of them have.

House Buyers Bill From Mr J. E. Humphrey Sir, Retired from legal practice for some years now and with no financial interest in the outcome of the current conveyancing alteration, I nevertheless find it too much to sit silent in the face of certain voiced misconceptions.

Going it alone From Lord Kaldor FBA Sir, In your leader today (December 5) you argue that non-nuclear defence requires "the reintroduction of conscription, massive reserves based on the continuing military liability of every citizen, and a considerable increase in our conventional defences against missile, air and maritime threats."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Prosecution by stores From Mr Timothy Lawrence Sir, I fear that your correspondent, Mr K. W. Lidstone (December 2), gives a somewhat partial view of the prosecution of theft from shops in London.

Dusty answer From Mr R. F. Tapsell Sir, The Outback cattlemen's car sticker quoted among your November 30 book reviews - "Eat more beef, you bastards" - is so quintessentially Australian (no disrespect to that delightful country), it reminded me of an urban version of the same flavour, to be seen on the vehicles of a refuse disposal contractor in Perth, Western Australia - "Satisfaction guaranteed, or double your rubbish back".

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The killing of an Irishman

From Mr William McDowell Sir, Today my personal friend Edgar Graham, Official Unionist member of the Northern Ireland Parliamentary Assembly, was shot dead in University Square, Belfast, when he lectured in the law department, only a few yards from where I study, was a ferocious opponent of sectarianism and a firm supporter of law and order.

Edgar Graham was an Irishman; he has been slain by Irishmen. If Mr Graham, an opponent of capital punishment, was a legitimate target how long will it be until the inadequate security policies of the British Government result in my murder?

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COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 8: Mr R. M. Evans was received in audience by the Queen this morning and kissed hands on his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Peking.



COURT AND SOCIAL

CLARENCE HOUSE
December 8: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this evening honoured the Members of the Army Board with her presence at Dinner at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.



Calling the tune: A helping hand for David Whitecock, aged 11, the new relief organist at the church of the Holy Cross, Yelling, St Neots, Cambridgeshire, from the Rector, the Rev Mark Bishop. David also plays the recorder, trombone and piano (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

OBITUARY

THE RT HON SIR KEITH HOLYOAKE
Former Prime Minister of New Zealand



The Rt Hon Sir Keith Holyoake, KG, GCMG, CH, who has died at the age of 79, was for several years the dominant figure in New Zealand politics. He was Prime Minister from 1960 to 1972, after an earlier period of a few months in 1957, and Governor-General from 1977 to 1980.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr D. E. Griffith-Jones and Miss V. A. M. Brown
The engagement is announced between David, son of the late Sir Eric Griffith-Jones and Lady Griffith-Jones, of Roglog, West Sussex, and Virginia, daughter of Mr and Mrs S. M. Brown, of Haslemere, Surrey.

Birthdays today

Sir John Burgh, 58; Miss Judi Deuch, 49; Mr Kirk Douglas, 61; Douglas Fairbanks, 74; Mr Benny Green, 56; Mr Robert Hawke, 54; Mr George Helaby, 42; Mr L. J. McIntyre, 52; Sir Stewart MacTear, 78; Mr Justice Goff, 74; Mr Godfrey Nicholson, 82; Miss Isabel Poole, 42; Mr Peter Ross, QC, MP; Mme Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, 68; Sir Peter Smithers, 70; Sir Maurice Yonge, 84.

Memorial services

Mr E. Price Holmes
The Prime Minister was represented by Mr Timothy Raison, MP, and the Speaker by Mr Ernest Armstrong, MP, at a memorial service for Mr Eric Price Holmes held at St Margaret's, Westminster, yesterday.

Luncheons

Chiefs of Staff
The Chief of the Defence Staff and the Chiefs of Staff were hosts at a luncheon at Admiralty House yesterday given in honour of the General Leopold Chalupa, West German Army Commander-in-Chief Allied Forces Central Europe.

Dinners

HM Government
Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a dinner at Admiralty House yesterday given in honour of the Deputy Prime Minister, Attorney-General and Minister of Justice of Mauritius.

Marriages

Mr W. T. R. Cart and Mrs S. P. Chavasse
The marriage took place quietly in London on Saturday December 3 between Mr Russell Cart and Miss Susanna Chavasse.

Receptions

Wingate Foundation
The presentation of the 1983 Harold H. Wingate Literary Prize was held at 74 St James's Street, London, yesterday. The Minister for the Arts, the Earl of Gowrie, was present.

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Rose expert honoured

By Alan Toogood, Horticulture Correspondent
The Royal National Rose Society has presented its highest award, the Deane Hole Medal, to Mr L. G. Turner, its retiring secretary, for his services to the society. He is succeeded by Lieutenant-Colonel Kenneth Graves.

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Lecture

Lord Romney, Chairman of the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Trust, presided at the Tenth memorial lecture given by Mr T. N. Kaul at the Royal Commonwealth Society yesterday.

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Cartier advertisement featuring a watch and the text 'le muft de Cartier boutique HARVEY NICHOLS, KNIGHTSBRIDGE, LONDON SW3. TELEPHONE 01-235 5000.'

£5,000 Bond winners

The £5,000 Premium Bond prize-winners for Dec are: AN 958174, 958175, 958176, 958177, 958178, 958179, 958180, 958181, 958182, 958183, 958184, 958185, 958186, 958187, 958188, 958189, 958190, 958191, 958192, 958193, 958194, 958195, 958196, 958197, 958198, 958199, 958200.

Latest wills

Miss Winifred Mary Parker, of Beaufield, Buckinghamshire, left estate valued at £308,093 net. After bequests totalling £2,600 she left the residue to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

Latest wills

Goodenough, Mr Samuel Kenneth Henry, of Lechlade, senior partner of Knight Frank & Rutley since 1978, left estate valued at £200,724 net. After bequests totalling £360,703 he left the residue to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

Science report

From electrodes to alternative fuels

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent
A research team at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia is marrying the disciplines of chemistry and semiconductor physics to improve the design of electrodes which will be a crucial ingredient in processes manufacturing alternatives to fossil fuels.

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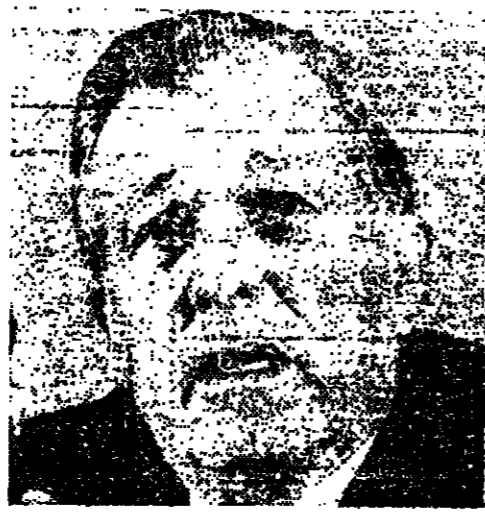
Advertisement for Charm him with Jannau Grand Armaçã Brandy. Text includes 'When his sang froid proves too cool', 'Charm him with JANNEAU GRAND ARMAÇÃ BRANDY', and 'Too good to keep to yourself'.

مكتبة من الأصل

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Regan flies in with cold comfort for Europe

The irrepresible Mr Donald Regan, the US Treasury Secretary, flew into London yesterday on his way to Brussels, armed with a soothing mixture of American good intentions designed to calm passions inflamed by the sky-high dollar and massive US budget deficits.



Regan: little hope of cutting budget deficits

Just as Mr Regan was telling us about Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, was blasting American economic policy in the House of Commons.

Mr Peter Tapsell, a stockbroker, MP, with Keynesian inclinations, provoked Mrs Thatcher into a blistering denunciation of US deficits after suggesting she might like to endorse the inflationary policies which appeared to have been highly successful in the US. "I would rather be in our position, which is sustainable, than theirs, which I believe will cause great trouble in 12 months," she declared.

Meanwhile, the pound steadied on foreign exchange markets after a flurry of selling on Tuesday and yesterday morning ending the day 5 points down at a new closing low of £1.4415. Its effective index lost 0.4 to 82.5, reflecting earlier losses against European currencies.

Mr Regan, who called on the Prime Minister last night, may have been glad to slip next door to enjoy the hospitality of Mr Nigel Lawson, The Chancellor of the Exchequer, though not a man renowned for pulling his punches, is unlikely to have gone in for the kind of tongue-lashing which Mrs Thatcher earlier indulged in.

Mr Regan said yesterday that it was often forgotten that state and local governments in the US were running big surpluses - about \$65 billion a year - which offset the impact of the \$200 billion federal deficit on capital markets.

This is true enough. But figures for central and local government deficits calculated by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development still show the US running the biggest budget gap of the five largest industrial economies.

Going for brokers Greenwell

W Greenwell is expected today to become the fifth leading British stockbroker to announce that outside interests have bought a large stake in its business.

Senior partners Mr Richard Lawson and Mr Gordon Pepper declined to say anything last night but lesser members of the firm was told enough to say: "I've been told there is no statement tonight. There may be something in the morning."

A company with a strong attachment to Greenwell is Mercantile House, which energetic and visionary Mr John Barkshire has developed from humble money broking into a big broking and fund management group with a powerful presence in London and New York.

It is an obvious candidate for three reasons: Mr Philip Greenwell, the former senior partner who guided the family firm to a place in stockbroking's top six is on the board; the importance of dealing capacity in Mr Barkshire's planning for Mercantile Houses future as an integrated financial services group; and the parallel thinking already evinced by Exco, which has much in common with Mercantile House. Exco sought to buy an interest in brokers Wood Mackenzie, which, like

Greenwell, has come down the field to the front rank in recent years. These two failed, in the end, to agree terms.

For almost 10 years Greenwell's reputation, which in the gilt-edged market is no bettered, has owed much to the monetary forecasting of the sharp-witted and formidably intellectual Mr Pepper. His Monetary Bulletin was, for a long period, required reading because of the influence it had in the market.

The 36-member firm is noted for its general research; in the latest survey of research capability it is ranked sixth.

Greenwell has been seen as a likely candidate for ambitious outsiders for some time. Speculation increased when a senior analyst, Mr Keith Sykes departed recently for a rival firm, Scrimgeour, Kemp-Gee.

A Greenwell link would follow investments in Hoare Govett (Security Pacific), Kildat, Aitken (RIT and Northern), Jobbers Akroyd & Smithers (Mercury Securities) and Vickers da Costa (Citicorp).

Eagle's VG share offer flops as Allianz talks go on

By Jeremy Warner

Representatives of Allianz Versicherung, the West German insurance company, yesterday met with Eagle Star directors in an attempt to find a basis for an agreed takeover bid. Allianz has already promised to top a £914m offer for Eagle Star, Britain's sixth largest insurer, made by BAT Industries but has so far been repeatedly spurned by the Eagle Star board which has made clear its preference for BAT.

The Eagle Star board suffered an embarrassment just night when it was disclosed that the offer for sale by tender of shares in the group's high-technology offshoot, V G Instruments, had been a resounding flop.

Of the 12.5 million shares on offer only about half were applied for. At the minimum tender price of 130p a share, V G is valued at £55m. It is the third tender offer to be under-subscribed within two weeks.



Sir Denis: talks will not be acrimonious

from Allianz, voted against the resolution.

Sir Denis said afterwards that he did not think that the talks

with the West German company would be acrimonious in any way.

Reports that the Allianz supervisory board was split at a meeting in Munich two weeks ago on whether to continue the takeover battle or bow out and take substantial profits on its existing 30 per cent stake in Eagle Star were dismissed by Allianz.

The price of Eagle Star shares in the stock market rose to 714p at one stage yesterday but closed 2p up on the day at 709p. This compares with BAT's last offer of 660p a share and the promise by Allianz to improve on it.

The market continues to believe that the bidding will end eventually at 725p a share, valuing Eagle at about £1 billion.

Saudis pressed on output

From David Young, Geneva

Pressure on Saudi Arabia to accept a firm production quota and a continued refusal by Iran to drop its demands for a higher oil price are main obstacles to agreement at the full ministerial meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries in Geneva.

The ministers still hope to reach agreement on prices and production by today. The differences which have emerged during this week's meeting were described yesterday by Dr Mana Saad al-Otaibi, oil minister of the United Arab Emirates, as "subtle".

There have been growing demands from members that if the production level of 17.5 million barrels agreed in London last March is to be renewed, Saudi Arabia's role must be clarified.

At present it is the only one of the 13 member countries without a fixed quota, acting as a "swing producer" to meet market demand.

Many Opec members believe that the country has been using this to increase its production, but Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi oil minister, said that if the country had taken Opec above its production limit it had done so by only 35,000 barrels.

Shaikh Yamani repeated that Saudi Arabia would keep its prices no higher than the present market price of \$29 until the end of 1984.

The country was confident that the upturn in world demand illustrated by America's consumption increase of 800,000 barrels a day would accelerate.

The Indonesian energy minister, Dr Subroto, said that Opec must consider strengthening its monitoring committee so that production quotas, agreed on by all members, "could be policed".

The Iranian delegation has also called for closer monitoring of any production quotas agreed in Geneva, but is still insisting that it should be allowed to increase its market share and is sticking to its instructions given to it before leaving Tehran that it would fight to have the official Opec market price raised to the pre-London level of \$34.

Delegates have given little backing to Iran's demands on prices, but most support its call for Saudi Arabia to clarify its position on output and to accept a strict quota.

Brooke Bond fights off critics

By Wayne Lintott

The annual meeting of Brooke Bond Group yesterday was once again heavily attended - as much for the afternoon tea that follows as for shareholders seeking fiscal information.

The shareholders, for the sixth successive year, overwhelmingly voted down a moderately worded motion asking Brooke Bond to disclose information on the wages, health and housing conditions of its African and Indian tea plantation workers.

The response of shareholders was impressive, both for and against the motion, but this year the company issued a five-page document explaining its position under the heading "Brooke Bond and The Third World".

The report shows the complexity of disclosing specific local information which, when compared with British conditions, can often show the company in a poor light.

It is for this reason that the chairman, Sir John Cuckney, declines invitations to media debates on the subject, despite many calls for the company to be represented.

Sir John argues that many of the plantations are jointly owned and conditions are often determined by the national governments.

Some are the days when rowdy hippies harangued the directors. On this occasion short-haired, business-suited young people eloquently argued their case.

They said Brooke Bond was a powerful multi-national that could effectively influence the abysmal conditions in which African and Indian labour works.

Sir John did get time - albeit briefly - to tell shareholders that the trading companies, whose products include PG Tips, Fry Bentos and Oxo, are showing an improved financial performance in the current year.

Hearne likely chief for Enterprise Oil

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

The Government has found the man it wants to run Enterprise Oil, the new North Sea exploration and production company which is scheduled to be floated on the stock market next summer as part of the continuing privatization programme.

Mr Graham Hearne, the managing director of Carless Capel Leonard, is expected to be named shortly as Enterprise Oil's chief executive. The appointment follows an extensive search among management in Britain's independent oil companies for the right person to launch the new company as a private sector concern.

Enterprise is the company that Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, has set up to take over the substantial North Sea oil assets formerly owned by the state-owned British Gas Corporation. Barring another serious fall in oil prices, the flotation is expected in June or July.



Hearne: chosen to lead

Provisional estimates are that it could raise £400m for the Treasury.

The Government has been keen to find a relatively young and dynamic British executive with oil industry experience to run Enterprise on a day-to-day basis. A former finance director of Courtlands, Mr Hearne joined Carless Capel Leonard six months ago after two years as chief executive of Tricontrol.

Berni Inn for £60m facelift

By Vivien Goldsmith

Berni Inns, which brought steak and chips to the masses in the 1960s with its chain of restaurants, is to have a change of image, in an attempt to attract young customers.

Grand Metropolitan is planning to spend £60m on the restaurants, which suffered a 30 per cent decline in sales since 1979.

The red-plush pub atmosphere will be replaced by a fresh green decor.

But more radically, many of the Berni Inn sites will also include one of three new offshoots: The Burgundy Room for a romantic night out; Eleven 11, a lively cocktail bar-style restaurant open from 11 am to 11 pm; and Pastificio, which will feature pasta being prepared within view of the customers.

Something clearly had to be done for Berni to increase its market share and attract more young customers, with falling profits and a return on capital below 10 per cent.

A number of experimental changes have been made with £10m being spent on 25 branch conversions in the year to the end of September.

The branches increased their volume of business by 84 per cent. In five years, Berni intends to have 240 Berni Inns, 80 Burgundy Rooms, 120 to 130 Eleven 11s and 60 Pastificios. It is already the largest licensed restaurant chain in Europe, serving 13.1 million meals a year, a figure it intends to boost to 27 million by 1988.

Berni intends to increase its returns on capital to about 15 per cent with the increase in branch turnover. The Pastificio chain is the result of deal with Anglo-American Restaurants, which has a chain of pasta American restaurants in the US with the same name.

Record run continues

The equity market showed few signs of running out of steam yesterday as the FT Index kept up its record-breaking performance, closing 6.6 higher at 760.2.

Another set of bumper figures from some of Britain's bigger companies including BOC, Bass and Great Universal Stores, continued to encourage investors and the lack of sellers again sent share prices soaring.

On foreign exchanges, the pound recovered from its initial weakness, which saw it sink to record low of \$1.4355, to close at \$1.4415, down 5 points.

STOCK EXCHANGES

Table with columns for FT Index, FT All Shares, Datasream USM Leaders, New York Dow Jones Industrial Average, Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones, Hongkong Hang Seng, Amsterdam, Sydney AO Index, Frankfurt Commerzbank Index, Brussels General Index, Paris CAC Index, Zurich SKA General Index.

CURRENCIES

Table with columns for LONDON CLOSE, Sterling, DM, Yen, Dollar, DM, NEW YORK LATEST, Sterling, Dollar, INTERNATIONAL, ECUE, SDRE.

INTEREST RATES

Table with columns for Domestic rates, Bank base rate, Finance houses base rate, Discount market loans, 3 month interbank, Euro-currency rates, 3 month dollar, 3 month DM, 3 month Fr, US rates, Bank prime rate, Fed funds, Treasury long bond, ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV, Average reference rate for interest period November 2 to December 8, 1983 inclusive.

GOLD

Table with columns for London fixed (per ounce), am \$402 pm \$401, close \$401.75-402.50, New York (latest), Kruggerand (per coin), \$414-415.50, Sovereigns (new), \$84-85.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sarasin 'rescue' for Dunlop

Sarasin International Securities, the financial adviser to a consortium attempting a bid for Dunlop, the beleaguered tyre manufacturer, has cleared the way by which a proposed bid and public quotation could be achieved.

Sarasin said that the Stock Exchange has raised no objections to the proposed plan. This would involve the establishment of a British registered, but unquoted, company whose shares would be sold to American institutions, which are said to be prepared to inject £40m cash.

That company would then make an all-share offer to Dunlop shareholders and if a majority accepted an official listing could be made.

● BOC Group reported pretax profits yesterday of £95.8m, down from £102.6m. The figures masked a strong revival in profits in the second half, and the shares rose 14p to 261p, a record. BOC is planning to offer shareholders a scrip issue alternative to the final dividend.

● Investors' Notebook, page 18 ● Shareholders in Stenhouse Holdings, the insurance broker, will be told today by the board whether to accept the controversial £53m offer from its Canadian associate, Reed Stenhouse. Stenhouse Holdings reported profits down from £8.9m to £8.4m yesterday.

● Britain's car output this year will top one million for the first time since 1979. Production in the first 11 months of the year was 20 per cent up on the same period a year ago, at 973,000, the Department of Trade and Industry, said yesterday.

● European Investment Bank chiefs signed a £10m loan for Short Brothers, the Belfast aircraft manufacturer, yesterday.

Profit-taking hits Dow

WALL STREET

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Shares were drifting lower in early trading on the New York Stock Exchange yesterday.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was about four points lower at 270, and declines were running about seven-to-six ahead of rising stocks.

The Transportation Average was up by nearly 3 points at 612, only a fraction below its record of 612.57, set on November 22. Trading was moderately active, with volume reading about 32 million shares.

Mr Alfred Harris, a senior vice-president for Josephthal & Co, said: "We're getting a continuation of the profit-taking, tax selling and portfolio adjustments that are typical of late November trading, which means a polling readjustment

that's running behind schedule." International Business Machines was up a point at 119 1/2. General Motors up 1/2 at 75 1/2. Teledyne up 1 at 157 1/2. Norfolk Southern up 1 1/2 at 64 1/2. Data General up 1/2 at 34 1/2. Diebold, up 1 1/2 at 78 and Time Inc. up 1 1/2 to 65 1/2.

Eastman Kodak was 74 1/2, down 1/2. Associated Dry Goods 63 1/2, down 2 1/2. Sun 43 1/2, up 1 1/2. Delta Airlines 42 1/2, up 1/2. Gulf Oil 42 1/2, off 3/4. Cooper Laboratories 29 1/2, down 1 1/2. Maytag 52, off 1 1/2. Cummins Engine 81 1/2, up 1/2. American Telephone & Telephone 64, off 1/4.

Italy likely to relent over import quotas

Newsprint dispute nears end

A dispute over newsprint supplies, which threatened to cost British newspaper publishers an extra £2m this month, is likely to be settled in Brussels today.

Telephone discussions between Mr Paul Channon, the Trade Minister, and the Italian Industry Minister, Signor Renato Altissimo, are thought to have resolved a row that caused heated exchanges at the EEC's Foreign Affairs Council two weeks ago.

The Italians have been blocking a supplementary quota for duty-free paper imports from Finland and Canada, arguing that they have 20,000 surplus tonnes in Sardinia and that EEC goods must take preference over outside supplies.

The Newspaper Publishers Association has been stressing that Britain is hardest hit, having used up its 1983 duty-free allocation of 1,062,000 tonnes in the middle of last



Channon: talks with Italians about Britain's plight

month. The EEC-wide quota shortage is put at 260,000 tonnes.

Although West German publishers have also used up their allowance, Britain's needs for December are put at between 100,000 and 150,000 tonnes. Quota increases have always been allowed in previous years. A meeting of EEC permanent representatives today is likely to sanction an extra 180,000 tonnes, of which 92,645 tonnes would come Britain's way. If the matter spills over to the next Foreign Affairs Council meeting on December 19, the freedom from duty should still apply retrospectively.

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

MSC training set to get a re-vamp

By Jeremy Warner
The Manpower Services Commission will spend £3.3m on small business and enterprise training this financial year and around £7.7m next.

Unfortunately the four enterprise courses offered by the Manpower Services Commission suffer from a near fatal flaw. They are run under the Training Opportunities Programme which excludes all but a tiny minority of the sort of people to whom small business training might be useful.

There is evidence to suggest that some of the polytechnics and business schools which receive funding for small business training regard the MSC as little more than a gravy train while there is a general lack of consistency, standard of content, and direction among the courses offered in different parts of the country.

Catch-22 for small firms

Several small firms have run into a "Catch-22" problem with the "funded consultancy scheme" operated by the Design Council, but funded by the Department of Trade and Industry. The scheme is designed to help small firms use specialist consultants to design new, or update old, products.

£20,000 prizes from bank

The National Westminster Bank is providing cash prizes of £20,000 in a competition to encourage enterprise among small businesses.

The balance of £5,000 will be split between three runners-up. Companies entering the competition must demonstrate successful innovation and show how they would invest the cash in their companies.

MR FRIDAY Ken Ryne

I was rather hoping you'd be an executive of a multi-billion dollar American corporation offering to buy me out.



Money in those dry-ski slopes

Owners of undulating land might like to consider investing in a boom leisure industry. For a capital outlay of approximately £400,000 it is possible to establish a top-class artificial ski slope which is profitable.

BRIEFING

with less than 50 employees, sales of less than £750,000 and assets of less than £1.5m.

Call for tax reform

The Government is being urged to reform company tax radically by the Association of Independent Businesses. If the system was changed so that it encouraged businesses that wanted to expand, the inland revenue would have to spend less time worrying about "evasion schemes", the AIB says.

EEC climate

A study of the environment for small businesses in the ten member states of the European Community has been published. It was carried out by the Economist Intelligence Unit for the United Kingdom Organising Committee for the European Year of the Small and Medium Sized Enterprise.

LEA courses for all

The London Enterprise Agency is throwing its small business training courses open to entrepreneurs from all over the country. Previously they had been available to Londoners only.

Co-op sticks

The Co-operative Bank is holding its standard charge for corporate customers for 1984 at current rates - 35p per £100 of debit turnover.

One-woman mine detector

By Sally Watts

Offer companies a service that saves them money, and you are in business. This reasoning led Miss Jane Molloy, a former personnel manager in her early thirties with an MBA from Cranfield, to set up her one-woman personnel management consultancy at Teddington, Middlesex.

By helping companies like these to save time, resolve difficulties and increase their effectiveness, Miss Molloy's own business grew within six months to the point where she received enough work from referrals to keep her busy.

Helping them towards re-employment

Although she gives one-off advice when this is asked, her main function is to provide a continuing, external advisory service - cost-effective and independent of involvement in company politics - to employers who are looking for wide-ranging professional skills.

She has also interviewed job applicants; prevented one very new employer, who was signing up three staff members for the first time, from using a worded contract that could have led to unnecessarily high compensation; and, following a merger of two companies, devised and implemented a grading structure for all the computing and administrative jobs.

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NOTICE TO BONDHOLDERS 4 1/2% LAND BONDS
Notice is hereby given that a drawing of the above mentioned Bonds was conducted by the Central Bank of Ireland, Dublin on the 7th to the 10th November, 1983 inclusive.

Graham Searjeant examines the implications of this week's Neddy meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

General manager at Halifax

Halifax Building Society: Mr David Gilchrist, previously assistant general manager, has become a general manager. He remains responsible for economic and corporate planning. Mr Peter Wood, previously chief inspector, has joined the executive as a secretary and will undertake responsibilities concerning the mortgage and insurance areas.

British Home Stores: From January 1, Mr D. P. Cassidy and Mr J. F. Power, who are both directors, to be assistant managing directors, jointly with Mr N. T. Griffin. Mr Cassidy will have responsibility for sales and for the food and restaurant business and Mr Power responsibility for merchandise and finance. Mr C. B. Williams, a divisional director, will be appointed director, store operations.

Morgan Grenfell Property Services: Mr Robert Hannington has been made a director to be responsible for property investment acquisition in the UK and US.

London and Scottish Marine Oil: Sir David Nicolson is now a non-executive director.

Phillips Petroleum: Mr W. W. Allen, operations manager, Ivory Coast Region, will be promoted to chairman and managing director. Phillips Petroleum UK on January 1, W. Vintea Lăzăreț: Mr G. E. Jones becomes managing director of the company, a subsidiary of Vintea Group, from January 3, 1984.

C & K Consulting Group: Mrs Rosemary Brown has been appointed director of business development.

TSB England and Wales: Mr Ken Müllichap, a senior partner with Arthur Young McClelland Moores & Co. accountants, has been made deputy chairman.

BUPA: Mr R. M. Graham, deputy chief executive, will be acting chief executive from January 1 and will succeed Mr D. V. Damerell as chief executive on the latter's retirement next year.

Aireclaims Group: Mr Michael Narraçott is now chief executive. Mr David Proudlove has retired as managing director and has been made a deputy chairman.

Breaking the unemployment impasse

In an unwanted outbreak of chumminess, Government, TUC and CBI all agreed with Mr John Cassells, director-general of the National Economic Development Office, that this week's long-heralded Neddy meeting on the future for jobs was one of the most constructive on record.

As you would expect in such an atmosphere of accord, none of the parties made any suggestions that are likely to make a rapid dent in Britain's three million recorded unemployment total.

The Government's paper, while making a sober assessment of where new jobs might come from and what might be done to facilitate the process, rested its case on the ability of its broad economic strategy to generate jobs in the long-term by improving the productivity, efficiency, competitiveness and thus growth of the British economy in a sound and stable financial environment.

"Jobs may be lost in the industries experiencing the greatest productivity advanced", it concedes. But they will be "gained elsewhere in the economy as the higher incomes that come from higher productivity are spent", mainly in the service sector.

The TUC, in its paper, while doubting some of the Government's flirtations with small business and self-employment, came to similar conclusions, though noting, with its different strategy, that "a return to sustainable high growth is an essential precondition for the success of industrial and other supply-side policies and thus for a return to higher levels of employment".

A precondition it may be, but not necessarily a sufficient condition. There are many explanations for Britain's sudden, internationally long and recalcitrant job queues. According to taste, you can cite: the inevitable adjustment of the exchange rate to North Sea oil and its necessary effect on manufacturing; the monetarist combination of high interest and exchange rates that knocked out for more capacity than the trade cycle justified; structural changes to adjust to new technologies abroad and now at home or the long-delayed shake-out of labour

required to achieve the once-and-for-all leap in productivity needed to put Britain back in the hunt.

Whichever explanation is preferred, neither common sense, nor the evidence suggests that a return to sustainable economic growth will do more than allow Britain to return to a normal path of prosperity and job-creation.

That would make little impact on the extra, non-cyclical unemployment, perhaps 1.5 to 2 million, souls, save on the longest perspectives of economic equilibrium.

In essence, what the three differing parties to Neddy agreed was that Britain's high unemployment was but a feature, however unacceptable, of general economic problems, which could be cured only by the working of overall economic strategy even though special attention should be given to smoothing the path of new jobs.

To government, which points to American success in creating jobs, this special attention is mainly a matter of easing rigidities in the labour market and labour mobility to promote rapid adjustment, and partly a cause for extra efforts to help train school leavers and promote new ventures.

To the unions it is predictably a matter of the Government committing itself to output growth through its economic strategy and hence generating sufficient confidence about future demand among industrialists to persuade them to invest.

But the message is essentially the same in denying that unemployment is a separate issue from the future prosperity of the economy. Yet unemployment

EMPLOYEES IN EMPLOYMENT, GB, 1973, 1979 AND 1983

	Employee (000s)			Change in employees 1973-1983	
	June 1973	June 1979	June 1983	Number (000s)	%
All industries and services	22,180	22,590	20,460	-1,720	-0.8
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	420	380	340	-80	-2.1
Mining and quarrying	380	350	310	-50	-1.5
Manufacturing	7,660	7,050	5,370	-2,290	-3.5
Construction	1,340	1,250	970	-370	-3.2
Gas, electricity and water	340	340	320	-20	-0.4
Service industries	12,060	13,240	13,150	+1,090	+0.9

Source: Employment Gazette
Note: The 1983 figures include an allowance for the probable understatement of the level of employment, particularly in the service industries, in the basic series.

GROWTH OF SERVICE EMPLOYMENT, GB, 1973-81

	Employment in June 1981 (employees and self-employed) (millions)		Change 1973-81 (millions)
	1973	1981	
All services	14.4	15.4	+1.2
Transport and communications	1.5	1.5	0
Distributive trades	3.2	3.2	0
Insurance, banking, finance and business services	1.4	1.4	0
Professional and scientific services	2.9	2.9	0
Miscellaneous services	2.5	2.5	0
Public administration	1.5	1.5	0

Source: Employment Gazette

other EEC countries (which on average enjoy a higher standard of living) and much more than Japan, which also enjoys more income per head.

In principle, it would be a boon to achieve greater prosperity without so many of us having to work. But the pattern of job losses has left whole cities and regions with inadequate spending power and, more particularly, millions of individual families as a new poor class.

The need to sustain those left out of our lopsided dash for prosperity has created a more pressing problem of state finances. The excess unemployment alone drains an annual £10 billion or so from the fisc, equivalent to 10p on income tax.

This has prevented tax cuts, an essential part of the Government's supply-side strategy; it has required emergency cuts in public investment (part of the TUC's); and it has focused longer term public spending pressure on health and education, precisely those parts of the public sector which, if the American pattern is to be followed, should be providing growth areas for activity and jobs.

Unemployment has prevented essential tax cuts

ment has now become an economic problem in its own right, which, whatever the strategic view, undermines the recovery of the economy as a whole.

At one level, unemployment has created problems of income distribution. Britain still has a slightly higher proportion of its population working than most

From this national point of view there are clearly three ways of tackling the unemployment problem within the given economic strategy.

Government can help create jobs by distributing public spending to labour intensive areas such as construction or services. It can, to the same end make labour more attractive to employers by cutting social security and other taxes or by improving vocational training. And it can encourage private investment through the interest rates or tax incentives. But government can also try to

Short-term crash programme is needed

induce the unemployed to become self-employed and it can help them to leave the labour force altogether, via tax incentives or the traditional standby of emigrating.

There are already a number of encouraging signs. Treasury ministers are now firmly on the defensive over public investment and seem in the process of a change of attitude.

The privatization programme, allied to competition measures is gradually freeing state monopolies from the public borrowing trap. The Youth Training Scheme and wider vocational education initiatives to staunch the flow of unemployed are impressive.

The National Insurance Surcharge is on the way out. Although little thought has yet been given to the more significant burden of mainstream employers' contributions.

Small business promotion is having its effect as the birth rate of new companies starts to outpace the catastrophic death rate.

Self-employment, once down to 1.3 million, has crept up above 2 million though it is still a weak feature of the economy, at about 8 per cent of the population compared with 12.5 per cent for the EEC as a whole or 15 per cent including family workers.

Many married women workers, more willing to work than their continental counterparts, have been forced to switch to part-time jobs. The proportion of British families with both spouses in the labour market remains high, but we may be moving to more flexible family combinations of employment, part-time work and self-employment.

On a long perspective, all this may have some effect. But it does not offer any real prospect of government being able to break out of the fiscal trap brought by unemployment. This is not simply a matter of welfare costs and tax losses. Palliative youth aid, training schemes, regional aid, investment incentives all cost billions a year and seem destined to swell the public spending total indefinitely.

Quite apart from ruling out more desirable public spending or tax cuts, this prevents government from sorting out taxes on the low-paid. The poverty trap is now recognized as a big deterrent to employment or self-employment. As the Government's Neddy paper coyly puts it, the economic strategy has provided "conditions for lower taxes and interest rates". But the grind of unemployment costs is stopping the Chancellor from realizing the benefits.

Industrial notebook

Why not the Nobel prize for business?

As a sidebar to tomorrow's Nobel award ceremonies in Stockholm and Oslo, the Nobel Foundation has declared today The Day of the Nobel Companies.

There is to be a meeting in Oslo this afternoon of the representatives of a dozen or more concerns which, like Dynamit Nobel, Wica Grabb of Austria, were founded by the explosives magnate, or like Sweden's own AB Bofors, once belonged to him. In between there is our own ICI, whose chairman, Mr John Harvey-Jones will be present, no doubt wearing one of his direct ties. ICI was founded, after the Swede's death, in a merger instigated by Nobel's British company which, like ICI today, was the world's biggest maker of industrial explosives.

Directing proceedings is the deputy chairman of the Nobel Foundation, Dr Teru Brewaldh, vice-chairman of Svenska Handelsbanken.

It is a meeting at which the "Nobel Heritage" will be discussed gravely but, since it is a private gathering only the participants will attempt any fireworks. The important thing about this conclave, however, is that it is taking place at all.

Alfred Nobel is known as a philanthropist and is remembered, albeit imperfectly, as the inventor of dynamite. In view of the bloody uses to which this and his other explosive inventions subsequently were put, the Nobel Foundation skirts gingerly around its benefactor's industrial achievements.

This is the 150th anniversary of his birth, in what is now central Stockholm. What better year to make a modest proposal that there be a huge Nobel prize for business or commercial innovation? This would commemorate Nobel's achievements in industrial organization and as a model employer. It might also encourage stronger links between public spirit and business enterprise.

Computers, microchips, pharmaceuticals, name your own idea - all have potential for good and ill, as did Nobel's explosives. He tamed nitroglycerine, the biggest advance in blasting since gunpowder

was introduced in the Middle Ages. He discovered a market for the railway builders and mining engineers of the Americas and of Europe and her empires - but it was the government who turned over his factories to auctions.

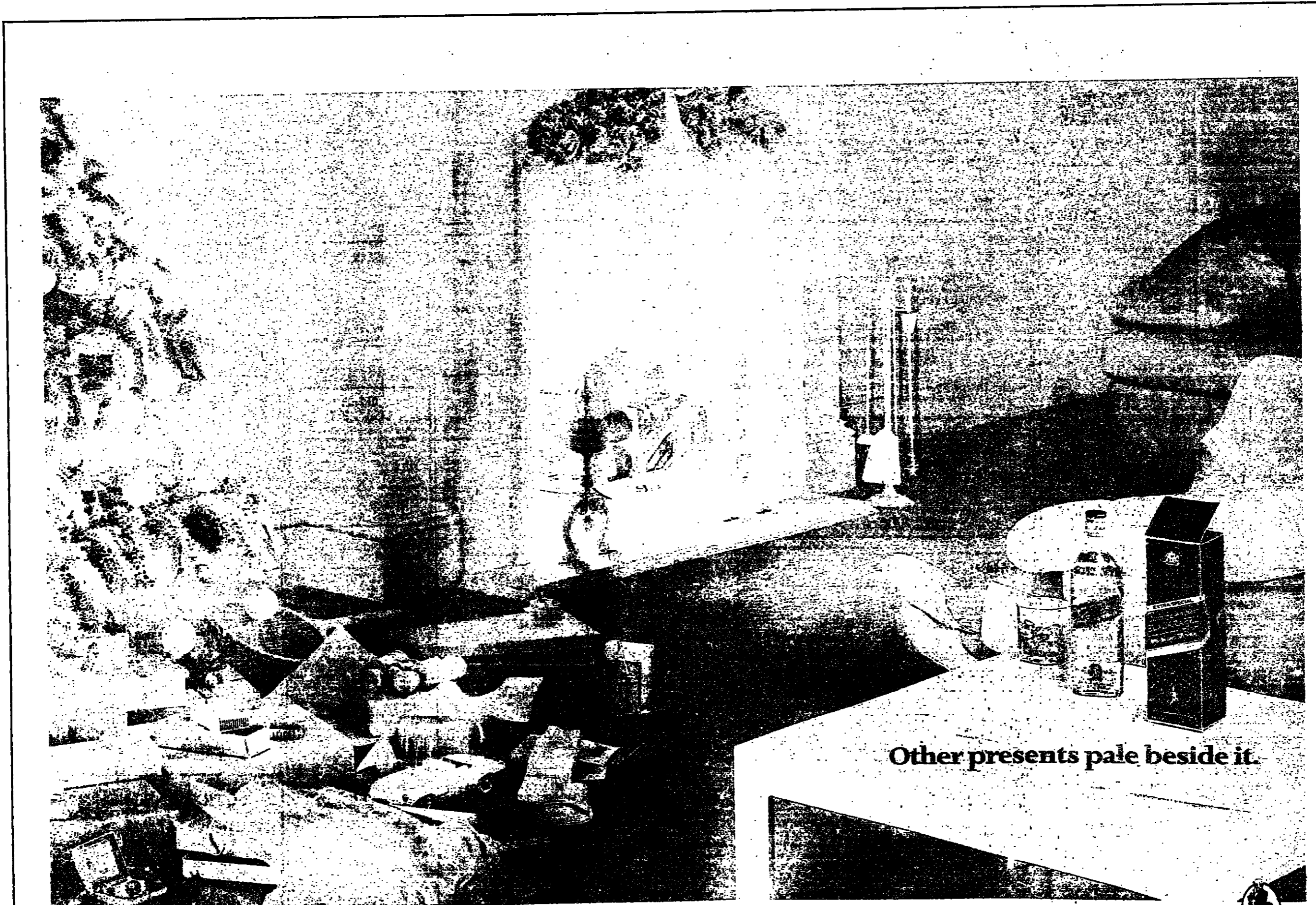
And, unlike so many inventors before or since, Nobel saw to it that he reaped the benefit. Since transporting nitroglycerine was dangerous, he made it wherever it was needed. Spraying banks (they let his father go broke) he induced local businessmen to put up the cash and the management, to which he contributed his patents in return for a majority of the shares.

In this way, he quickly built up enterprises in five continents and in so doing became a father of the multi-nationals - another invention that has had a controversial history since.

To introduce another Nobel award, it might be argued, would be to tamper with Nobel's will. But so, too was what everybody now thinks of as the Nobel Prize for Economics. Nobel, a polymath, left money for awards in the subjects which interested him - chemistry, physics, physiology, medicine, literature. He did not like crooked or grasping business people, didn't like bankers at all and certainly did not think enough of economists to provide for them in his will. But this did not stop the Nobel Foundation, from accepting a new award 14 years ago, which is called, ironically, the Bank of Sweden Prize in Economics in memory of Nobel.

Remembering that business underlies everything in national life, the 1919 Nobel Peace laureate Woodrow Wilson went on to observe that the first petition in the Lord's Prayer is for our daily bread. Is it not odd that, in memorializing Alfred Nobel himself, inventor, industrial innovator, good employer, the foundation should choose a prize in economics rather than business, thus dignifying not the means by which we get our daily bread, but our squabbles about who should have the biggest slice?

Ross Davies



Other presents pale beside it.

NOTHING ELSE MEASURES UP TO JOHNNIE WALKER BLACK LABEL

هكذا من الأصل

CRICKET

Counties may have to bowl at least 117 overs a day in championship matches

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

Among several significant recommendations to be put to the Test and County Cricket Board at their statutory winter meeting, to be held at Lord's next Tuesday, is one which, if accepted, will require a minimum of 117 overs to be bowled in a full day's championship cricket.

Bob Willis, the England captain, is known to think that the limit of one an over is detrimental to English batsmanship. When, in Australia and West Indies, anything up to four an over are being bowled, he considers that the England players are neither temperamentally nor technically prepared for it.

Imran cleared to play in fourth Test

Sydney (Reuters) - The injured Pakistan captain Imran Khan has been cleared by an orthopaedic surgeon to play in the fourth Test against Australia starting in Melbourne on December 26.

Imran has been unable to play because of a stress fracture of his left shin since the touring side arrived in Australia in October, but a leading Sydney specialist said yesterday that the latest X-ray examination of the Pakistani captain's leg showed he had made good progress.



Imran: on the mend

After leaving the surgery, Imran said: "It is a great weight off my mind, I wasn't hoping for miracles but just for the best. But bowling immediately for me is out of the question, although I want to do both in the Melbourne Test, and then the Sydney Test, and the one-day internationals later."

While Imran has been kept out of action, his countrymen have lost their first Test against Australia and been saved by rain in the second. Zaheer Abbas has led the team in his absence.

The Test umpire Dickie Bird has been invited to make up a four-man panel to officiate at the new Asia

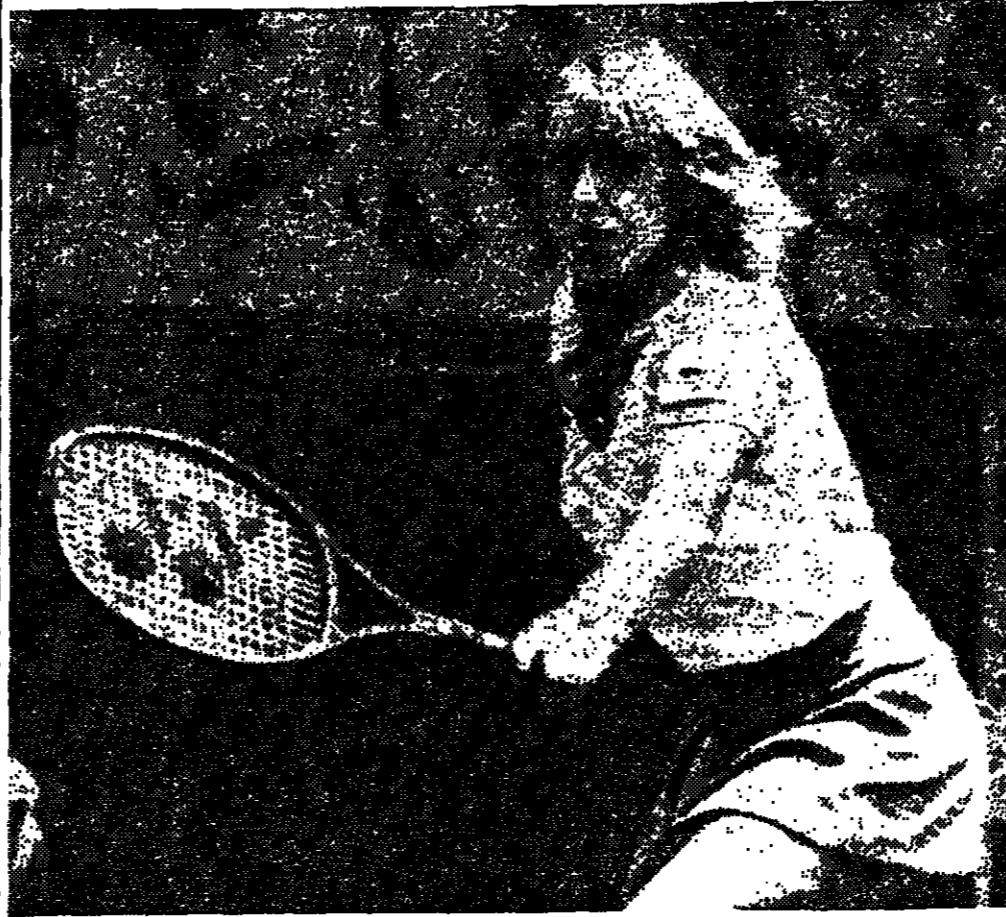
Imran cleared to play in fourth Test

Cup tournament at Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates in March, which is still a concession to the slow coaches. In 1930 in the Lord's Test between England and Australia the average for the match was 22 to the hour, in the Lord's Test of 1946, between England and India, it was 23. By 1980, when West Indies were bowling at the Oval, it had sunk to just over 12. In next year's Test matches in England, West Indies are to be asked to agree to 96 overs in the day.

Imran cleared to play in fourth Test

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TENNIS



Miss Navratilova was in aggressive mood, on and off the court, in Australia yesterday.

The \$6m woman marches on

Melbourne (Agencies) - Martina Navratilova, the No 1 seed, continued her relentless march towards her third successive Australian Open final when she swept aside her doubles partner Pamela Shriver, 6-4, 6-3 in yesterday's semi-final.

Miss Navratilova has been beaten only once this year and though Miss Shriver tried to pressure her with a potent serve and volley attack, Miss Navratilova was always able to move into a higher gear. Two service breaks were enough for Miss Navratilova to achieve victory.

There was good news for tennis fans yesterday when Wimbledon announced almost identical ticket prices for next year's championships from June 25-July 6. After making court charges in 1983, the tennis federation - all of it handed over to the Lawn Tennis Association to promote the game in this country - Wimbledon have a virtual standstill in admission charges.

Wimbledon holds prices

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BOXING

Warren regroups his forces after third title setback

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Frank Warren, the promoter, is nothing if not an optimist after the unranked Montero, unable to prise open his tight defence. It was like a diver trying to open a glass clam and running out of air. That is exactly what happened. A left hook to the ribs in the eighth round knocked the breath out of the Liverpool lad. An upstart finished him off.

Warren denies that Wallace's reticence in the ring had anything to do with an inability to make the weight. Wallace will box again in February and it is unlikely that, if the French want to offer a return, Warren will take it until after the February bout. Warren puts Wallace's poor showing down to personal worries. "It is just like Coronation Street where Keith's family lives", Warren said. "After the death of his father, who was very close to him, he finds that he is the bread-winner."

Graham's title on the line

Saint Nazaire, France, (Reuters) - Herol Graham, the British light-middleweight boxer who is unbeaten in 25 bouts, puts his European crown on the line in this weekend's middleweight Jimmy Price, Roy Gumbs and Errol Christie. And yes, Joe Bugner, too. But there was a jumbo-sized question mark over big Joe, he said. Everything depended on settling his legal obligations to Melody, his first wife, and clearing himself of contempt of court. "As his manager I must do my best for him", Warren said. "Yesterday, I thought he could be back in the ring by February."

BADMINTON

Mrs Gilks aims for record

The favourites for this year's English national championships, sponsored by Yonex, at Coventry, and starting today, provide an unexpected and curious contrast. Richard Easton writes, Gillian Gilks will be attempting to regain the women's singles title and take it for a record ninth time; Steve Butler will be trying to win the men's for the first time.

Table with multiple columns listing financial data, including Authorized Units & Insurance Funds, and various market indices.

كندا من الأصل

FOOTBALL: BLOWING THE TRUMPET IN EUROPEAN COMPETITION

Three English teams threaten to extend dominance over Channel

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The three English clubs who are creating an unofficial "super league" of their own...

revenge in their 2-0 win, he suggested that foreign opponents can be too sophisticated.

by Sparta in Prague, such innocent enthusiasm must be added to the refined experience of a Faryman, the raw determination of a Roberts, the eager opportunity of an Archibald, and, most of all, the rare gifts of a Hoddle.

Tottenham are threatening to find it even without the assistance of Ardiles, who sat in the wings on Wednesday.

Europe's leaders

Table with 5 columns: Club, P, W, D, L, Pts, Av. Rows include Tottenham, Borussia M'G, Liverpool, Leeds, Dynamo Kiev, Ipswich Town, Manchester U, Bayern Munich, Real Madrid.

Table with 5 columns: Country, P, W, D, L, Pts, Av. Rows include England, West Germany.

The Austrians, also with two survivors in the UEFA Cup field, are clearly likely opponents.

Tottenham and Forest will, above all, want to avoid each other. Only one point separates them in the first division.

Maxwell gets an apology and a second replay at Oxford

The Oxford United chairman, Robert Maxwell, won the right to stage the Milk Cup fourth round, second replay against Manchester United, at Oxford after winning the loss of a coin yesterday.

● Tony Morley, the Aston Villa and England winger yesterday completed his £70,000 move to West Bromwich Albion.

Morley: Move completed

Bargaining ahead for Robson

Bobby Robson has two weeks to prepare for the hard bargaining that will take place when England and their World Cup opponents haggle over arrangements for their qualifying matches.

Representatives from Northern Ireland, Romania, Turkey and Ireland will meet in London on December 22 to sort out dates for the group three fixtures.

England's first qualifying match is likely to be in September, a time when they are at their peak.

The club can trace its origins back to the 1890s when it began life as the equivalent of a Territorial Army team.

After World War II the Star played three seasons and then closed because of lack of local interest.

The old colours, red and black hoops are to be worn again after 28 years.

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Trevor Francis, the Sampdoria and England forward (above), may require surgery on an inflamed tendon in his left leg (AP reports from Genoa).

Army trainer keeps Royalists in step

Windsor and Eton may not be the most accomplished team playing in the second round of the FA Cup tomorrow, but they are certain to be covered by the best of the best.

Geoff Chapple, the manager of Windsor and Eton, who are at home to Wolves tomorrow, has a reputation for being a strict disciplinarian.

The club's leading scorer is Chris Yates, who has 15 goals to his credit this season.

Arthur Mann, the former Nottingham player, has been appointed caretaker player-manager of Boston United since the end of the season.

The club are nicknamed the Royalists. Their Stag Meadow ground is on Crown land inside Windsor Great Park.

Windsor and Eton's league attendances rarely exceed 300 and in modern times no competitive match there has been attended by more than 1,500 people.

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Welsh students on brink of acceptance

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

The constitution of the proposed Welsh student's body will go before the general purpose committee of the Welsh Rugby Union next week.

The Welsh Rugby Union are moving towards the realization of their aspirations," Brian Kempton, the assistant WRU secretary, said yesterday.

In practical terms this will not alter their present position greatly, though they will be permitted to apply for grants towards, for example, their administration.

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The Star that burns brightly could lead Arbroath astray

On September 3, 1885, Arbroath set what is still, and is always likely to be a British goal scoring record in a first class match when they beat the long since dead and buried Bon Accord 36-0 in a football Cup final.

Arbroath missed promotion on goal difference because their defence was generous away from home.

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It is a football area, but most who like the game travel to Dumfries to watch the presently successful Queen of the South.

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Absence of top players dilutes championships

By Rex Bellamy

Three leading players will be missing when Britain's national championships begin today at Abbeydale Park, Sheffield.

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FOR THE RECORD

ICE HOCKEY: NATIONAL LEAGUE: St Louis Blues 4, Toronto Maple Leafs 2.

GYMNASTICS: TOKYO: Men: Floor: 1, V Mogilyuy (USSR), K Scherzinger (Jap) 8.85.

ICE SKATING: SAPPHIRE World Junior championships: Boye: Free Skating: 1, V Pavlenko (USSR) 19.74.

CURLING: VAESTERAAAS, Sweden: European championships: Men: Group A: Denmark 8, Italy 2.

IN BRIEF

Bembridge shares lead after a flying start

Maurice Bembridge, of Britain, scored five birdies over the first seven holes to share the first round lead in the New Zealand PGA golf tournament in Taunanga yesterday.

Bembridge slumped with two strokes over par on the ninth hole, but picked up three more birdies on the back nine.

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HOCKEY

Midlands top county game at Abbey Park

By Joyce Whitehead

The last batch of county championship matches prior to the tournaments immediately after Christmas will be played tomorrow.

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RUGBY LEAGUE

Jasiewicz is called up

By Keith Macklin

Dick Jasiewicz, a Yorkshireman of central European descent, will surprise place in the Great Britain squad to prepare for the international game with France at Avignon on January 29.

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Today's fixtures

FOOTBALL: Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

OTHER SPORT: BADMINTON: English national championships (Covey)

OTHER SPORT: RACQUET: Colston Leicestershire Invitation singles (Alan Colton and Gillian Colton)

OTHER SPORT: RACQUET: British closed championships (Abbeydale Park, Sheffield)

Miss Walliser overcomes leg injury to triumph but faces uphill struggle

Irene Epple was right, then. She had said after her victory in the Premier Neige downhill here on Wednesday that "tomorrow was another day." There was no cause to be star-struck. The German charmer, however, was succeeded by a Swiss of like character in Maria Walliser, the winner in brilliant sunshine of yesterday's race transferred from a virtually snow-less Sestriere.

From John Hennessy, Val d'Aoste patriot. But she refuses, sensibly, to regard herself as the Olympic favourite and thereby add her own pressures to those imposed by other people. She argues, indeed, that the Swiss team is still so strong, even in Miss de Agostini's absence, that she could well be beaten in her own national championship in February, never mind what might be happening in the great world outside.

Established her authority, along with that of Miss Epple, against an unpromising background, having recovered from an injured right knee last year - after two World Cup victories at Megeve and, significantly, Sarajevo - she cut open her left knee in training a month ago, reopened it later and spent the whole of last week in bed, hoping it would mend.



Airborne: Miss Walliser en route to victory

men's downhill threw up an interesting possibility for Steven Lee, of Australia, had the second best training time behind Todd Brooker, a Canadian favourite. Lee was tenth in

the Hahnenkamm, at Kitzbuehel. He might just take the Alps by storm as another Australian, Malcolm Milne, once did by winning here in 1969. It is a long shot but a fascinating one.

Results

Overall: 1. M Walliser (Switz), 1min 20.98sec; 2. I Epple (Switz), 1:21.74; 3. G Sorrensen (Den), 1:21.30; 4. A Ehm (Switz), 1:21.56; 5. R Gutaroshin (Austria), 1:21.74; 6. M Kien (WG), 1:21.87; 7. H Wenzel (Liech), 1:21.90; 8. V Vitzthum (Austria), 1:22.02; 9. E Hies (Austria), 1:22.08; 10. E Kirschner (Austria), 1:22.20; 11. S Eder (Austria), 1:22.20; 12. S Eder (Austria), 1:22.20; 13. S Eder (Austria), 1:22.20; 14. S Eder (Austria), 1:22.20; 15. S Eder (Austria), 1:22.20; 16. S Eder (Austria), 1:22.20; 17. S Eder (Austria), 1:22.20; 18. S Eder (Austria), 1:22.20; 19. S Eder (Austria), 1:22.20; 20. S Eder (Austria), 1:22.20.

NATIONS CUP: 1. Austria, 174 pts; 2. Switzerland, 155; 3. Liechtenstein, 67; 4. West Germany, 58; 5. Canada, 40; 6. United States, 37.

RACING

Captain Dynamo to keep Nicholson's winning momentum

Fred Winter has won the Piper Champagne "Trainer of the Month" award for November, primarily on account of his fine training in difficult circumstances of Brown Chamberlain who won the Hennessey Cognac Gold Cup at Newbury in such devastating style. But it may have been a close run thing because the panel of judges, whose votes decide the award, must have also considered Gavin Pritchard-Gordon and David Nicholson.

Enter known for his feat on the flat Richard-Gordon, boasted a winner to runner ratio that even Michael Dickinson would have been proud of while Nicholson saddled no fewer than 18 winners in November.

Due to the predominantly dry weather last month must have been a nightmare for trainers with promising young horses rising to go. So Nicholson's record with novices was a clear-cut success. Voice of Progress, Comedian and Gambir have all made notable contributions to the stable's considerable haul recently and at Cheltenham today it was Captain Dynamo to follow suit and win the Coombe Hill Novices Steeplechase.

But for judging the last fence Ro's Owen would have given Walnut Wonder and Cold Winters plenty to think about at Ascot last month. As a result, the fact that Nicholson considered that Captain Dynamo was ready for a crack at a race of that nature so early in his steeplechasing career is an insight to what he thinks of the horse. Before that Captain Dynamo's potential had been underlined by victories at Stratford and Newbury.

With successive wins at Ascot and Newbury to her name Monna poses an obvious threat to my selection but an even greater danger could be the Imperial Cup winner Desert Hero. I expect to see him determined by that fall at Warwick last month when he appeared poised to win.

Nicholson and his jockey, the remarkable Peter Scudamore, also have a fair chance of winning the Foodbrokers-Armour Steeplechase with Burnt Oak who gave Integration 12lb and a beating at Newbury four weeks ago.

In the means Integration has beaten another of today's runners, Easter Carnival, at Ascot albeit only after Easter Carnival had ruined her chance by making a bad mistake at a crucial moment. Before that she had

the earlier division could go to Encarrax, who finished second at Doncaster recently, at the expense of Destiny Bay whose performances on the race course still to measure up to the esteem in which he is held at home.

Gandolfo eyes Scottish National with Hy-Ko

David Gandolfo, the Wantage trainer, hopes that Hy-Ko, with whom he was the Tote Novices' Chase at Uttoxeter yesterday, will develop into a Scottish National prospect next spring. The seven-year-old, scoring for the third time this season, showed his stamina when holding off Master Terza by a neck after he had led most of the way ridden by Paul Barton.

Sharpe, aged 21, who comes from Ross-On-Wye, has been the amateur at the Rimel stables since he left school, and has ridden 28 winners, three of them at the National. He certainly showed his ability on Lodge's Fortune, who was headed at the second last fence by Celtic Free, but rallied the gelding to regain the lead at the last.

Uttoxeter results

Going: good to firm
1.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102
2.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102
3.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102
4.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102
5.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102
6.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102
7.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102
8.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102
9.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102
10.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102

2.0 DECEMBER CHASE (handicap: £1,802; 2m 4f)
1.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102
2.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102
3.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102
4.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102
5.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102
6.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102
7.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102
8.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102
9.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102
10.00 SUDSBURY CHASE (5c) novice: £1,102

Cheltenham

Going: good to firm
Total: Double 1.40, 2.50, Treble 1.5, 2.15, 3.25.
[Television: (BBC 1) 2.15, 2.50 and 3.25 races]

12.30 BRISTOL HURDLE (Div I) (novices: £1,545; 2m 4f) (13 runners)
1.01 2002-1 DORSET BAY (G Johnson) H Henderson 5-11-10
1.02 2002-2 BURNING BUSH (G Johnson) H Henderson 5-11-10
1.03 2002-3 BURNING BUSH (G Johnson) H Henderson 5-11-10
1.04 2002-4 BURNING BUSH (G Johnson) H Henderson 5-11-10
1.05 2002-5 BURNING BUSH (G Johnson) H Henderson 5-11-10
1.06 2002-6 BURNING BUSH (G Johnson) H Henderson 5-11-10
1.07 2002-7 BURNING BUSH (G Johnson) H Henderson 5-11-10
1.08 2002-8 BURNING BUSH (G Johnson) H Henderson 5-11-10
1.09 2002-9 BURNING BUSH (G Johnson) H Henderson 5-11-10
1.10 2002-10 BURNING BUSH (G Johnson) H Henderson 5-11-10

1.5 KINOTON CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS CHASE (handicap: £3,043; 2m) (8)
1.01 2002-1 CLASSIFIED (G Rogers) N Henderson 7-11-10
1.02 2002-2 CLASSIFIED (G Rogers) N Henderson 7-11-10
1.03 2002-3 CLASSIFIED (G Rogers) N Henderson 7-11-10
1.04 2002-4 CLASSIFIED (G Rogers) N Henderson 7-11-10
1.05 2002-5 CLASSIFIED (G Rogers) N Henderson 7-11-10
1.06 2002-6 CLASSIFIED (G Rogers) N Henderson 7-11-10
1.07 2002-7 CLASSIFIED (G Rogers) N Henderson 7-11-10
1.08 2002-8 CLASSIFIED (G Rogers) N Henderson 7-11-10

1.40 BRISTOL HURDLE (Div II) (novices: £1,528; 2m 4f) (21)
1.01 2002-1 ALDWINNER (G Rogers) N Henderson 7-11-10
1.02 2002-2 ALDWINNER (G Rogers) N Henderson 7-11-10
1.03 2002-3 ALDWINNER (G Rogers) N Henderson 7-11-10
1.04 2002-4 ALDWINNER (G Rogers) N Henderson 7-11-10
1.05 2002-5 ALDWINNER (G Rogers) N Henderson 7-11-10
1.06 2002-6 ALDWINNER (G Rogers) N Henderson 7-11-10
1.07 2002-7 ALDWINNER (G Rogers) N Henderson 7-11-10
1.08 2002-8 ALDWINNER (G Rogers) N Henderson 7-11-10

12.45 DAILY MIRROR CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HURDLE (£1,335; 2m 1f) (12)
1.01 2002-1 SEA PENNANT (G Jones) J Jones 7-11-7
1.02 2002-2 SEA PENNANT (G Jones) J Jones 7-11-7
1.03 2002-3 SEA PENNANT (G Jones) J Jones 7-11-7
1.04 2002-4 SEA PENNANT (G Jones) J Jones 7-11-7
1.05 2002-5 SEA PENNANT (G Jones) J Jones 7-11-7
1.06 2002-6 SEA PENNANT (G Jones) J Jones 7-11-7
1.07 2002-7 SEA PENNANT (G Jones) J Jones 7-11-7
1.08 2002-8 SEA PENNANT (G Jones) J Jones 7-11-7

1.15 HAIG WHISKY HURDLE (novices: £1,376; 2m 1f) (12)
1.01 2002-1 PARDON MY NAME (G Wainwright) W Wainwright 5-11-10
1.02 2002-2 PARDON MY NAME (G Wainwright) W Wainwright 5-11-10
1.03 2002-3 PARDON MY NAME (G Wainwright) W Wainwright 5-11-10
1.04 2002-4 PARDON MY NAME (G Wainwright) W Wainwright 5-11-10
1.05 2002-5 PARDON MY NAME (G Wainwright) W Wainwright 5-11-10
1.06 2002-6 PARDON MY NAME (G Wainwright) W Wainwright 5-11-10
1.07 2002-7 PARDON MY NAME (G Wainwright) W Wainwright 5-11-10
1.08 2002-8 PARDON MY NAME (G Wainwright) W Wainwright 5-11-10

Carlisle
Going: good to firm
12.45 HAIG WHISKY HURDLE (Div I) (novices: £1,376; 2m 1f) (12)
1.01 2002-1 PARDON MY NAME (G Wainwright) W Wainwright 5-11-10
1.02 2002-2 PARDON MY NAME (G Wainwright) W Wainwright 5-11-10
1.03 2002-3 PARDON MY NAME (G Wainwright) W Wainwright 5-11-10
1.04 2002-4 PARDON MY NAME (G Wainwright) W Wainwright 5-11-10
1.05 2002-5 PARDON MY NAME (G Wainwright) W Wainwright 5-11-10
1.06 2002-6 PARDON MY NAME (G Wainwright) W Wainwright 5-11-10
1.07 2002-7 PARDON MY NAME (G Wainwright) W Wainwright 5-11-10
1.08 2002-8 PARDON MY NAME (G Wainwright) W Wainwright 5-11-10

Cheltenham

1.5 FOODBROKERS-ARMOUR CHASE (handicap: £6,317; 3m 1f) (9)
1.01 6100-1 SCOT LANE (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.02 6100-2 SCOT LANE (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.03 6100-3 SCOT LANE (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.04 6100-4 SCOT LANE (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.05 6100-5 SCOT LANE (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.06 6100-6 SCOT LANE (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.07 6100-7 SCOT LANE (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.08 6100-8 SCOT LANE (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10

2.50 COOMBE HILL CHASE (novices: £3,121; 2m) (6)
1.01 09-1-115 CAPTAIN DYNAMO (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.02 09-1-115 CAPTAIN DYNAMO (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.03 09-1-115 CAPTAIN DYNAMO (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.04 09-1-115 CAPTAIN DYNAMO (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.05 09-1-115 CAPTAIN DYNAMO (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.06 09-1-115 CAPTAIN DYNAMO (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10

3.25 CORAL GOLDEN HURDLE (handicap: £2,973; 3m) (15)
1.01 014-311 FALME THE SPIN (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.02 014-311 FALME THE SPIN (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.03 014-311 FALME THE SPIN (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.04 014-311 FALME THE SPIN (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.05 014-311 FALME THE SPIN (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.06 014-311 FALME THE SPIN (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10

1.45 BUZZARD HURDLE (novice: selling: £531; 2m 1f) (16)
1.01 010 PHILIPS HUSSAR (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.02 010 PHILIPS HUSSAR (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.03 010 PHILIPS HUSSAR (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.04 010 PHILIPS HUSSAR (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.05 010 PHILIPS HUSSAR (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.06 010 PHILIPS HUSSAR (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10

2.15 BLACKDOWN STUD CHASE (novices: mares: £1,287; 2m 1f) (11)
1.01 2214-26 PRESCOTT (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.02 2214-26 PRESCOTT (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.03 2214-26 PRESCOTT (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.04 2214-26 PRESCOTT (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.05 2214-26 PRESCOTT (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.06 2214-26 PRESCOTT (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10

2.45 SPARROW HAWK HURDLE (novices: £414; 2m 1f) (18)
1.01 310 BOLT THE GATE (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.02 310 BOLT THE GATE (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.03 310 BOLT THE GATE (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.04 310 BOLT THE GATE (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.05 310 BOLT THE GATE (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.06 310 BOLT THE GATE (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10

Devon selections

By Michael Phillips
12.15 Inisharnan, 1.05 Ro's Owen, 1.40 Ingcover, 2.15 Burnt Oak, 2.50 Captain Dynamo, 3.25 Sandhria.

1.45 BUZZARD HURDLE (novice: selling: £531; 2m 1f) (16)
1.01 010 PHILIPS HUSSAR (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
1.02 010 PHILIPS HUSSAR (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10
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1.06 310 BOLT THE GATE (G) (J Johnson) M Tabor 10-11-10

2.15 HEADS HOOK CHASE (novice: £1,202; 2m 1f) (11)
1.01 2002-1 SEA PENNANT (G Jones) J Jones 7-11-7
1.02 2002-2 SEA PENNANT (G Jones) J Jones 7-11-7
1.03 2002-3 SEA PENNANT (G Jones) J Jones 7-11-7
1.04 2002-4 SEA PENNANT (G Jones) J Jones 7-11-7
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Car Buyer's Guide

General
NEW 1982 ROVERS
1983 SPEC:
at unbeatable prices, or fantastic part exchange allowances
OFFER MUST END CHRISTMAS.
Delivery arranged anywhere in U.K.
Open Weekdays 8.30am-6pm. Sunday 10am-1pm. Phone for details.

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SAAB PICCADILLY
1981/X Reg. 900GLS. 4-door, manual, pine green. £4,995
1982/Y Reg. 900GLS. 4-door, manual, walnut brown. £5,695
1982/Y Reg. 900GLS. 3-door, manual, walnut brown. £5,695
1982/Y Reg. 900GLS. 5-door, manual, white. £6,095
1983/Y Reg. GLE. 4-door, auto, s/roof, white. £8,500
1982/Y Reg. 900 Turbo. 3-door, manual. 5-speed. £7,500
1982/X Reg. 900 Turbo. 5-door, manual. 5-speed. s/roof, midright blue. £8,500
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1981 'X' ROVER 3500 SE
Manual gearbox, sunroof, low mileage, superbly maintained private vehicle, unblemished, lovely coachwork.
£5,295
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Special Edition
Dark metallic, 1981, only 11,500 miles, 1 body owner, excellent condition, central locking, shock absorbers, sunroof, radio cassette.
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1982, 5-door hatchback, 18,000 miles, 1 owner, radio/cassette. Full service history, excellent condition.
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41,375 miles, £4 Manager Director's car, excellent driver and car, excellent condition, 12 months M.O.T.
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M.D.'S CAR
CITROEN CX20 FAMILIALE
1 year old, 9,400 miles. Black plus alloy wheels, cost new £9,200 only £6,895.
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MANAGING DIRECTOR'S CAR
12,000 miles, sunroof, radio, stereo etc.
£9,500
Tel: 267 2320 (day)
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OPEL SENATOR
3.0E Automatic 1983, Reg. No 3102, 11,000 miles, sunroof, leather trim, 4.830 miles only. Electric windows, O.M. 6000, 12 months M.O.T. as per price at £9,950.
HP/PC welcome
NORTH CITY AUTOS
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ROVER 3.5 SE
Automatic, 12 months M.O.T., in good condition, only 5,000 miles. Director's car.
£10,750
M. J. P. 2000, 12 months M.O.T.
Tel. Luton 410707

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1948
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a petition was presented to the High Court of Justice for the confirmation of a reduction of the capital of the above named Company from £3,530,000 to £1,000,000 by cancelling shares of £2,530,000 which are in excess of the wants of the said Company. The said petition is directed to be heard by the Registrar of Companies on the 19th day of December 1983 at 10.00 am.

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كندا من الأصل

Request by Syria for Soviet troops

Continued from page 1

attackers - Shia Muslims in the slums of Haya Selum and Druze militiamen in the mountains to the east - with tank rounds and Dragon anti-tank missiles.

US to lift Argentine arms ban

Continued from page 1

Nato ministerial council session in Brussels. Arms embargoes were imposed on both Argentina and Chile during the Carter Administration because of the serious human rights violations taking place in both countries.

Deserted village mourns vanishing bus

Even now the devastation is begun, And half the business of destruction done; Even now, methinks, as pondering here I stand, I see the rural virtues leave the land.

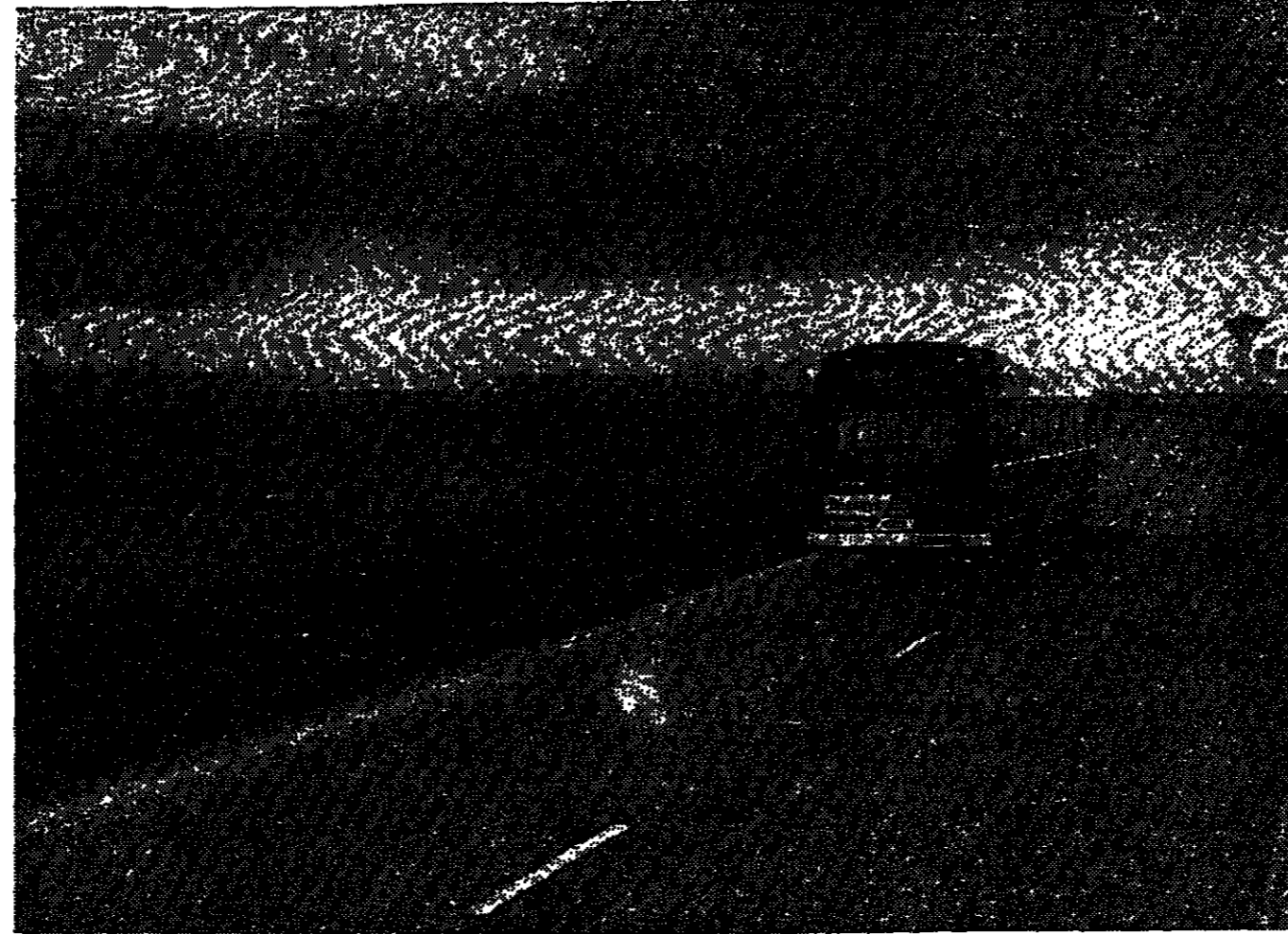
The roses will bloom as usual next summer in cottage gardens in the Norfolk village of Swanton Morley but if the Council for the Protection of Rural England is right, more as a memorial than a demonstration of the virtues of country life.

The village (population about 1,500), from which Abraham Lincoln's ancestors emigrated to America in 1637, is, according to many of its inhabitants as well as the CPRE, facing its demise as a thriving community.

Swanton Morley is one of 72 Norfolk villages threatened with losing its bus service, a vital link to the market town of Dereham, four miles away, which provides shops, doctors, a hospital and schooling for its country cousins.

About a third of the villagers have no car and more than half have only limited access to one (when the breadwinner is not using it to drive to work), so that many people depend on the bus's five daily trips to Dereham and weekly service to Norwich.

Next week Norfolk county council is expected to ratify its transportation sub-committee's decision to limit its subsidy to the Eastern Counties Omnibus Company to £500,000 a year. Eastern Counties says it needs £1.3m to maintain present services and adds that as well as the 72 villages losing their buses, another 50 will be deprived of commuter services, with the loss of 85 jobs in all.



Disappearing into the sunset: the fated bus from Swanton Morley to Norwich (above) and Mrs Louise Battle (left), who is worrying about having to use her bicycle



from Dereham at 14.46 on New Year's Eve. "It is ridiculous," Mrs Peggy Carrick, president of the local Friendship Club for the over 60s said.

small shops, two public houses and a primary school, is probably facing its greatest crisis since modern farming techniques deprived many of its workfolk of their labour in the fields.

But Mr Ian Corsie, the county surveyor, said last night: "I should not have thought our subsidies are out of line with our rural neighbours. We are concerned that some villages will be isolated, but we believe there is substantial scope for small private operators and unconventional services like social car schemes."

Frank Johnson in the Commons It's that word again on the wireless

Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday shocked people listening to Prime Minister's questions on the radio by using THAT word, the word: fascist.

Until her outburst the word had been considered so boring that it can only be used on Channel 4. Even then, it is confined to documentary programmes and discussions about virtually any country allied to the United States.

The word escaped Mrs Thatcher's lips when Mr Fergus Montgomery, one of her backbenchers, asked her whether she had noted "the disgraceful scenes by a left wing rent-a-mob to prevent a coalition of Conservatives and Liberals taking control (at a meeting of the council of the London Borough of Brent the night before)."

In reply, the Prime Minister, in condemning the violence, referred to "the fascist left". Admirable though her sentiments no doubt were, it was sad to hear her using the word which her opponents had made the most of in the language.

After a while we all realized that technically we were on a question asking Mrs Thatcher to pay a visit to Enfield North (Mr Eggar's constituency). By the time this was sorted out, we had run out of time for Prime Minister's questions.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements: Princess Anne, Colonel in Chief, Royal Signals, attends a briefing at the School of Signals, Blandford Camp, Dorset, 10.

Moira Williams: Flora and fauna

Gallery 45, 45/46 Bridge Street, Hereford; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30; closed Sun (ends Dec 24).

Carol Services

Christmas concert by the York Concert Orchestra, St. Sampson's Church, Church Street, York, 7.30.

Food prices

Over the past 5 years consumption of exotic fruit and vegetables has risen enormously, according to the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Information Bureau.

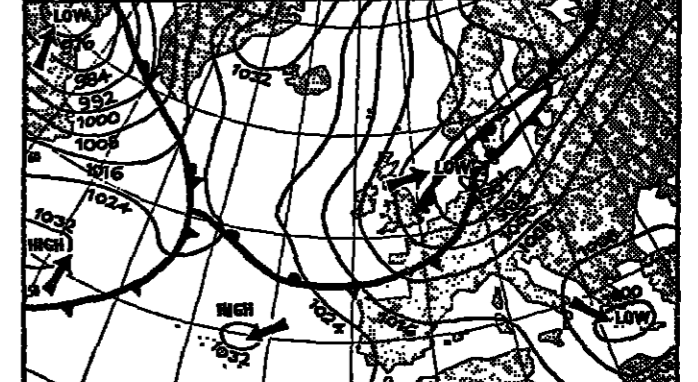
Roads

Midlands: A14: Lane closures on Huntingdon bypass. A45: Roadworks on Coventry-Daventry road at Fosse Crossing, Warwickshire.

Weather

A depression will cross Northern England overnight with a cold, showery northerly airstream becoming established over the United Kingdom.

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars



High tides

Table with columns for location, AM, HFT, PM, and HW. Lists high tide times for various coastal locations.

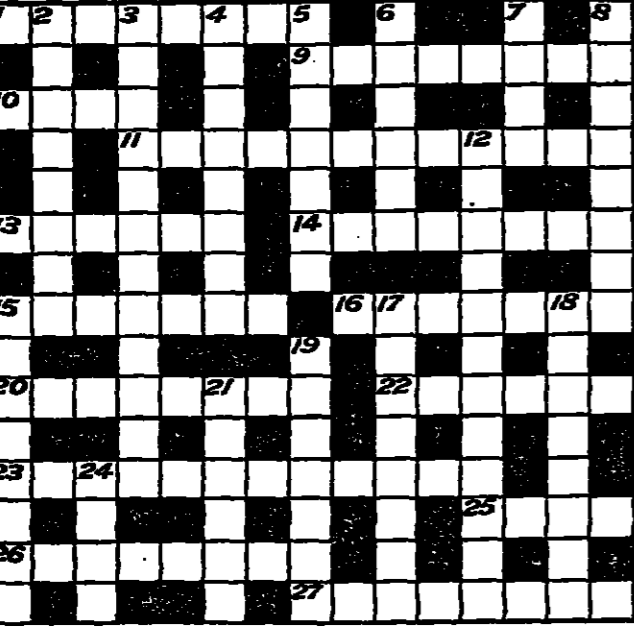
Around Britain

Table with columns for location, Sun, Rain, Max, Min, and other weather indicators. Provides local weather forecasts for various parts of Britain.

Abroad

Table with columns for location, C, F, and other weather indicators. Provides weather forecasts for various international locations.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,305



- ACROSS: 1 Question scope for drinking in Bath, for example (4-4). 2 Go-ahead king follows new call (3-5). 3 One of the mild folk in Scotland (4).

Exhibitions in progress

Picture Derby - photographs of Derby from 1900 to 1983, Derby Museum and Art Gallery, The Strand, Derby, Tues to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun (ends Dec 30).

Top films

- Top box office films in London: 1 The Jungle Book/Mickey's Christmas Carol. 2 Rear Window.

The pound

Table showing exchange rates for various currencies: Australia \$, Austria Sch, Belgium Fr, Canada \$, etc.

Lighting-up time

London: Yesterday: Temp: max 8 am to 8 pm, 11C (59F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 5C (41F). Humidity: 65%.

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Colwyn Bay 14C (57F); lowest day temp: Harrogate 5.5C (42F); highest night temp: Loughrea 0.9C (33.5F).

Anniversaries

Birth: John Milton, London, 1608; Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, Frankfurt, 1749; George Grosz, German, 1891; George Orwell, 1903; Joseph Stalin, 1879.

Last posting

The Post Office recommends Saturday, December 17 as the last posting date for second class mail and parcels, and Tuesday, December 20 for first class.

The Papers

Hiding behind Congress, the Reagan Administration has again rejected plans to increase America's aid to the poorest countries.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Sex Equality Bill, second reading.

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 12

